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Japan

Watanabe: U.S. Must Avoid Unilateral Acts

OW1305044692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0415 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe told visiting U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle on Wednesday that American businesses should make greater efforts to succeed in the Japanese market before bringing their troubles to the White House.

Foreign Ministry officials said Watanabe made the remarks in a 90-minute breakfast meeting with Quayle at the ministry's Iikura Guesthouse. Quayle arrived Tuesday on a four-day visit to attend ceremonies commemorating the 20th anniversary of the reversion of Okinawa to Japan.

"It just won't do if American businesses fail to make greater efforts," Watanabe told Quayle.

"From this issue to that issue, they bring their troubles to the White House without making efforts to resolve them by themselves," he said. "The White House must find itself in a strait because of this."

Officials also quoted Watanabe as saying in the talks that in the new post-cold war order, the U.S. should not undertake "unilateral actions."

He said that to facilitate a "global partnership," as both governments now characterize the relationship, it is necessary for one partner to consult with the other before taking actions that affect both.

The foreign minister said Japanese public opinion will not support the global partnership concept otherwise.

Watanabe was believed to be alluding to such actions as the U.S. announcement earlier this year of a multilateral package of aid to Russia before Japan had fully agreed to it.

Foreign Ministry officials did not quote Quayle as directly responding to Watanabe's points. He said the two countries' global partnership has importance not only for themselves, but for the world as a whole.

Watanabe told Quayle that Japan wants to join with the U.S. in following up on their respective political and economic commitments made in the Tokyo declaration and supplementary action plan issued during Bush's visit here in January.

The foreign minister suggested that will pave the way for a successful visit to the United States by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, which is expected to take place before the July 6-8 summit of the seven major industrialized nations in Munich.

Watanabe praised Quayle for his "courageous" remarks in recent speeches in which he called on both Americans and Japanese to stop their war of words.

In a speech late last month to the Council on Foreign Relations, Quayle described Japan as "a dependable ally, a truly global partner of the United States," and warned that neither country can achieve its foreign or domestic objectives without cooperation with the other.

Quayle, who is making his fourth visit to Japan, told Watanabe he felt that to counter the prevailing anti-Japanese criticism it was necessary for him to come out and stress the importance of the U.S.- Japan relationship.

Officials said Quayle and Watanabe agreed that the two countries should cooperate in extending assistance to Eastern Europe.

Touching on Japan's relations with Russia, which have been complicated by a bilateral territorial dispute since the end of World War II, Watanabe told Quayle that for Japan to conclude a peace treaty with Moscow, it must be assured the latter will abide by it in the future.

Watanabe referred specifically to a 1956 joint declaration in which the Soviet Union pledged to transfer two of the four disputed islands to Japan after a peace treaty. The pledge was later revoked.

Japan also resents the Soviet Union's declaration of war against Japan in 1945 and its subsequent seizure of the contested islands despite the fact that a neutrality treaty was then in effect.

Watanabe stressed that Japan is not insisting that all four islands be returned at once, adding that while Japan would be flexible on the timing, it wants them back as soon as possible.

Quayle was quoted as saying the issue would move rapidly toward a resolution if Russia were to recognize Japan's residual sovereignty over the islands.

Following the talks with Watanabe, Quayle held a round-table discussion and question and answer session with students at Keio University.

Official Urges Clearer Dealings With West

OW1305113492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Japan should preempt misunderstandings by making its views more clear from the start when requested by other Western countries to do things, a top Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Japan must put a stop to ambiguous responses to American and European requests, including its frequent promises to "take into consideration" their requests.

He mentioned as an example U.S. pressure for a massive Japanese financial contribution toward the multibillion dollar superconducting super collider (SSC) physics project now under construction in Texas.

The official noted that despite Japan's reservations about the project, U.S. President George Bush pressed the issue during his January visit here after seizing on previous Japanese pledges to "consider" participation.

He criticized the U.S. approach of coming up with its own ideas, not consulting with Japan in the early stages, and then demanding Japanese financial cooperation on the grounds it is vital to facilitate the two countries' so-called "global partnership."

The official said such a problem would be unlikely to occur between Japan and China, as the two Oriental peoples are able to understand when requests are declined using subtle and ambiguous wording, which averts loss of face.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe told U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle in talks earlier in the day that the Japanese public will not support the global partnership concept if it means Japanese accession to unilateral U.S. endeavors. Watanabe said prior consultations are vital.

Okinawa Holds Ceremonies To Mark Reversion

OW1305103592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0954 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—The national government and Okinawa Prefecture will hold separate ceremonies Friday to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Okinawa's return to Japanese rule from the United States.

Civic groups will also hold a meeting and a symposium to look back on the history of the Okinawa Islands which were under U.S. rule from the end of the World War II in 1945 until May 15, 1972.

The government will hold a ceremony in Tokyo attended by about 300 Japanese and U.S. officials and guests, government officials said. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will lead the ceremony.

Among the U.S. guests attending the ceremony Friday morning will be Vice President Dan Quayle and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Quayle will deliver a speech during the ceremony to call for stable relations between Japan and the United States.

On Okinawa, about 2,000 people will attend a ceremony organized by the prefectural government, officials said.

Governor Masahide Ota will call on participants to consider ways to make the prefectural economy independent of the U.S. military bases on the island.

Okinawa is home to about 60 percent of the U.S. troops in Japan.

Okinawa's Reversion Termed 'Crisis-Avoidance'

OW1305122292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1150 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Scholars and experts from Japan and the United States agreed Wednesday that the 1972 U.S. reversion of Okinawa to Japan was important in smoothly managing the bilateral relationship, a Japanese professor said.

The participants in a seminar marking the 20th anniversary of Okinawa's return called the reversion "crisis-avoidance" or a "rational decision," said Akio Watanabe of the University of Tokyo.

"Often in politics, people take certain measures for the first time when a situation grows into a crisis when nothing can be done," said Watanabe, who briefed reporters on the closed seminar session.

"But the political decision concerning Okinawa's return was farsighted and wise, taken before a situation developed into a crisis," Watanabe said.

Thirty-four professors and experts, including 12 from the U.S., gathered at a Tokyo hotel for the two-day closed seminar, one of the events planned by the committee for a commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the reversion of Okinawa, headed by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

The U.S. governed Okinawa from the end of World War II in 1945 until May 15, 1972, when control was returned to Japan. The U.S. military continues to maintain several large bases on Okinawa.

Watanabe said the participants also agreed on the importance of the reversion's timing, in the sense that the economic gap between Okinawa and mainland Japan may have been wider and the Okinawans' discontent bigger if reversion had been delayed.

The initiatives of politicians on reversion also were important, the participants agreed, citing then Prime Minister Eisaku Sato's visit to Naha, Okinawa's capital, in August 1965, which moved public opinion on Okinawa and prompted the U.S. to seriously tackle the issue.

The discussions at the seminar also focused on the Okinawans' point of view, Watanabe said, concluding that reversion from this perspective was also good

The public expectations of improved living standards after the return were met, while the impact of the military bases has become smaller both economically and psychologically, he said.

"If the evaluation of the return regarding the people in Okinawa were negative, then its evaluation in terms of smoothly managing Japan-U.S. relationship would also be negative," Watanabe said.

Urban Combat Training Facilities' Removal Denied

OW1305135292 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 13 May 92 Evening Edition p 1

[Text] Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato held a news conference Wednesday morning. Concerning some reports that the U.S. urban warfare training facilities in Onna Village in Okinawa Prefecture would be returned to Japan on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Okinawa's reversion, the chief cabinet secretary said: "We are not aware of this fact."

Chief Cabinet Secretary Kato stressed the following points:

1. Aside from the question as to whether consideration should be given to the removal of the urban warfare training facilities in Onna Village, consultations are currently in progress between the Japanese and U.S. Governments on consolidating and readjusting U.S. military bases on Okinawa; and

2. There will be some form of an announcement from the U.S. side on consolidation and readjustment during the observance of the 20th anniversary of Okinawa's reversion on 15 May.

On top of this, he expressed his views for the future prospects, and said: "There will probably be no return of unexpectedly massive land lots used as military bases."

MITI To Await U.S. Steel Dumping Moves

OW1305114992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1120 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Japan will not take voluntary steps to allay U.S. steelmakers reportedly ready to sue Japanese and other steel firms for alleged dumping, a top official of the International Trade and Industry [MITI] said Wednesday.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said Japan would not take such steps as extending voluntary export restrictions or monitoring Japanese steel shipments to the United States.

"Japan will not take any steps but just take a wait-and-see attitude," said the official.

Major U.S. steel firms, including USX Corp., will reportedly soon file suit against Japanese and some German steel firms for alleged predatory pricing of seamless steel pipes.

MITI officials said Japan will try to resolve the issue through multilateral negotiations, although South Korea has unilaterally extended voluntary restraint agreements.

The Japan-U.S. agreement on voluntary restraint on Japanese steel exports expired at the end of March.

Some Japanese steelmakers that have stakes in leading U.S. steel companies are working on their U.S. partners to exercise restraint, industry sources said.

Toyota To Display GM Cars at Tokyo Showroom

OW1305125792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1126 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Nagoya, May 13 KYODO—Toyota Motor Corp. will display six cars made by General Motors Corp. at its showroom in Tokyo for five weeks starting June 30 as part of its efforts to increase sales of U.S.-made cars in Japan, company officials said Wednesday.

The display will be held jointly with Yanase and Co., Japan's top foreign car dealer which acts as exclusive importer of GM cars and GM's Japanese subsidiary, they said.

The officials said the three parties have yet to decide, however, on what types of GM models should be on display.

The disclosure about the exhibition came less than a week before top executives from Japanese and U.S. auto manufacturing companies meet in Chicago, where the issue of increasing sales of U.S.-made cars is expected to be high on the agenda.

GM recently began an advertising campaign using a series of Japanese newspaper ads directly comparing GM and Japanese cars in size, price and performance in a bid to overcome Japan's bad image of American cars.

In 1991, sales of GM cars in Japan rose 8.8 percent to 9,261 from the previous year, while overall sales of imported cars fell 11.1 percent to 197,184.

Tokyo, Russia Agree on Bank's Moscow Office

OW1305072592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0711 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—The Russian Government and Japan's Finance Ministry have agreed to allow the Bank of Tokyo to open an office soon in Moscow, financial sources said Wednesday.

The specific timing was not disclosed.

It will be the second Japanese bank to set up an office in Russia if the Export-Import Bank of Japan opens one in Moscow as scheduled in October.

The Bank of Tokyo also plans to upgrade its Vienna representative office to branch status in June. The bank hopes to cover Eastern Europe and Russia through the two arms.

The bank had been wanting to open an office in Moscow because of the potential of the Russian market once economic reforms start to proceed smoothly, while the Russian side welcomed such requests in order to promote the country's financial reforms.

The Japanese Finance Ministry, however, remained conservative because of territorial issues between the two nations. The Japanese Government has claimed that

political and economic issues cannot be considered apart from the territorial settlement.

But according to the sources, the ministry softened its stance as the Group of Seven (G-7) major economic powers, of which Japan is a member, moved to bail out the Commonwealth of Independent States by offering a 24 billion dollar financial assistance.

The Vienna branch will engage in overall commercial banking.

Planning Officials Meet With ROK Counterparts

OW1305130192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1209 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—The Economic Planning Agency [EPA] and its South Korean counterpart, the Economic Planning Board, held a regular meeting in Tokyo Wednesday to exchange views on bilateral economic issues.

During the meeting, South Korean officials told the Japanese officials that South Korea's trade deficit in 1991 was attributed to weak export competitiveness caused by inflation resulting from high wage hikes, EPA officials said.

South Korea posted a trade deficit of 9.7 billion dollars in 1991.

The South Koreans explained measures taken to contain inflation, including a tight fiscal policy and tightened controls on money supply, as well as those under consideration to increase direct foreign investment, the EPA officials said.

UNTAC Needs Engineers, Transport Specialists

OW1205125892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1148 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—The top United Nations administrator in Cambodia nudged Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Tuesday to contribute personnel for logistical support of peacekeeping operations in the war-torn nation, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Yasushi Akashi, head of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), also reiterated a request for Japan to pay out 800 million dollars, or about one-third of the estimated 2.3 billion dollars needed to maintain the largest peacekeeping force in U.N. history, the official said.

In the half-hour meeting, Akashi said UNTAC requires more engineers and communications and transport specialists, he said.

Some U.S. lawmakers regard Cambodia as a good opportunity for Japan to take the initiative and make a voluntary contribution, unlike in the Persian Gulf crisis when Japan took action only in response to pressure, Akashi was quoted as telling Miyazawa.

Miyazawa did not reply to the requests, the official said.

Akashi also reportedly suggested Japan establish Asia's first training ground for soldiers joining in U.N. peacekeeping missions, as well as storage facilities for supplies used in such operations.

The official said Japan is interested in the idea.

Japanese legislators are currently debating a bill that would enable Japan to dispatch the Self-Defense Forces to U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Reaction to PKO Training Center Proposal Noted

Miyazawa Rejects Suggestion

OW1305140692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1357 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa brushed aside a suggestion Wednesday to build centers in Okinawa to train personnel to participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations and to store supplies.

Miyazawa told a group of reporters that the proposal, made Tuesday by Yasushi Akashi, head of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), is "Mr. Akashi's personal idea."

Miyazawa said he does not want to "cause trouble for the people in Okinawa."

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe also rejected the proposal at a session of the House of Councillors' special committee on international peace cooperation.

Watanabe said Self-Defense Forces (SDF) units should take part in logistic support for the U.N. peacekeeping force, instead of civilians as the opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) proposed.

"I consulted the United Nations, and the UNTAC said they cannot accept civilians even for logistic support," Watanabe said.

He said some Japanese are concerned about the SDF joining the U.N. peacekeeping force, "so it is better for the SDF to take part in services such as logistic support."

"Services for logistic support will not be at a front line but it may not be completely safe because some weapons might be left," Watanabe said. "So it is case by case. We can not bind every aspect with law."

In Okayama Prefecture, Tamisuke Watanuki, secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), called for a meeting with his counterparts from the second and fourth largest opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), next week.

LDP leaders have repeatedly said they hope to pass the government-proposed bill on peacekeeping cooperation with the support of Komeito and the DSP.

The bill would allow Japan to send SDF overseas for the first time since its defeat in World War II, except for a minesweeping unit that helped clear mines after the Persian Gulf war.

The country's No. 1 opposition party, the Social Democratic Party, opposes the bill, saying the troop deployments would trample the spirit of Japan's post-war Constitution banning use of force as means of settling international disputes.

The bill passed the LDP-dominated House of Representatives early last December and is currently being deliberated in the opposition-controlled upper house.

SDP Chairman Makoto Tanabe said Tuesday the party will physically resist passing the bill in the upper house if the LDP forces it through.

He said the SDP will take "three nights and four days for the bill to pass through the upper house."

Also Wednesday, Akira Yamagishi, head of Japan's largest labor organization, Rengo, proposed holding a summit next week of leaders of social democratic groups—the SDP, the DSP, the United Social Democratic Party, Rengo, and the Rengo-backed minor party, Rengo Sangiin.

Yamagishi put forth the proposal in a meeting with Yasumatsu Hoshikawa, leader of Rengo Sangiin, in an effort to coordinate differences among the five groups over the bill.

In a related move, Shigeru Hatakeyama, director of the Defense Agency's Defense Policy Bureau, told the upper house special committee that an SDF medical unit, if dispatched, would involve about 270 people at the most.

Komeito head Koshiro Ishida is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Miyazawa on Thursday to discuss the peacekeeping operations bill, officials said.

Ishida returned home Wednesday from a trip to Cambodia, Thailand and Malaysia.

Okinawan Leaders Oppose Center

OW1305054692 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 13 May 92 Morning Edition p 4

[Editorial report] Local Okinawan leaders react to reports on a suggestion made by Yasushi Akashi, chief of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia, to Prime Minister Miyazawa and Democratic Socialist Party Chairman Ouchi on 12 May to create a permanent stockpiling facility for pooling materials and equipment, and a center for personnel training in Okinawa for U.N. peacekeeping operations (PKO).

Okinawan Governor Ota says that it is "inconceivable" how such an idea came about, since a majority of the prefecture's people desire the retrenchment of military bases on Okinawa, as seen, for instance, in a recent public opinion poll conducted on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Okinawan reversion to Japanese rule.

While expressing support for Japan's participation in the PKO, President Kei Shimura of the Liberal Democratic Party's Okinawa Prefecture branch takes a cautious attitude toward Akashi's scheme, saying that the handling of PKO-related matters will have to wait until after the passage of the PKO bill, which is presently being deliberated in the Diet.

Chairman Koei Neho of the Japan Communist Party's Okinawa Prefecture branch calls Akashi's idea "a grave challenge to the Okinawan people," against which he lodges a "strong protest." He claims that the people's lives and the natural environment are already being adversely affected by the U.S. bases here, and an additional base for the unconstitutional overseas dispatch of Self- Defense Forces [SDF] is "absolutely unacceptable."

Chairman Zenshun Arakaki of the Social Democratic Party's Okinawa Prefecture branch says that Akashi's plan "to establish an operational base for PKO to interfere in the conflicts of other countries" is "unacceptable under any circumstances." He claims that the plan is questionable both from the point of view of constitutionality and in relation to the Japanese-U.S. Security Pact.

Chairman Soko Shimabukuro of the Socialist Masses Party's Okinawa branch, refrains from commenting directly on the Akashi proposal pending verification of the media reports, but links this to the PKO bill now in the Diet. He asserts that only peaceful means should be used in international cooperation because the experience of the Battle of Okinawa proved that peace cannot be maintained through military force.

Chairman Taiichi Shiraho of the Komeito's Okinawa Prefecture branch says that the creation of a PKO base devoted to peace is not suitable in Okinawa at present because Okinawa serves as an offensive base. The PKO base can only come after the U.S. bases are "retrenched and substantially consolidated"; otherwise, the prefecture's people "will not agree."

Chairman Okitatsu Matsumora of the Democratic Socialist Party's (DSP) Okinawa branch, refrains from commenting on this "extremely important international and diplomatic issue" prior to consultations with DSP headquarters.

Other leaders of antiwar, antibases groups and labor unions in Okinawa also voice their opposition to Akashi's proposal. Secretary General Mitsuo Fusamae of the Prefectural People's Conference to Safeguard the Constitution and Oppose the Security Treaty expresses concern that the SDF and UN forces may take over the use of U.S. military bases in the future. Yukio Gibo, leader of an activist group opposing the forced leasing of military land, terms the Akashi plan an indication that

Japan has not repented the crimes it committed against the Asian people during World War II.

Chairman Tomohiro Kayoda of the General Council Center for Okinawa Prefecture Trade Unions also opposes what he calls "a step to setting up new military bases" because of the great potential for PKO activities to be involved with hostilities. Secretary General Moriyasu Oshiro of the Prefectural Peace Committee also expresses strong opposition to the PKO center, saying this may become a stepping stone for SDF overseas missions. Chairman Tsukasa Nakamura of the Prefectural Council of Labor Unions calls the plan outrageous and claims that this is a scheme to support the unconstitutional PKO bill from the sidelines.

Ishida Urges PKO Talks With SDP Counterpart

OW1205131292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1248 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Hong Kong, May 12 KYODO—Komeito chairman Koshiro Ishida on Tuesday called for talks with his counterpart from the Social Democratic Party (SDP) on legislation that would allow Japan to join U.N. peacekeeping missions abroad.

Ishida, who heads Japan's second largest opposition party, made the comment to reporters during a stopover in Hong Kong before heading home from a three-nation tour of Southeast Asia.

He added that there is a possiblity that the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) and Komeito will be able to agree on a bill to enable Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to join U.N. peacekeeping operations overseas.

Last Saturday, the three parties agreed not to permit units of the SDF to take part in separating warring forces nor in monitoring ceasefires, though individual SDF members could participate in the latter.

Ishida said he will ask SDP Chairman Makoto Tanabe not to derail their effort.

Komeito, which supported the government's bill in the lower house, is demanding that some provisions be frozen so Japan will not have to join armed U.N. peacekeeping forces.

The SDP, Japan's largest opposition party, submitted its own bill at the lower house aimed at stepping up nonmilitary Japanese contributions to the international community.

Under the agreement, SDF personnel would be allowed to participate in ceasefire missions which do not require participation by national units.

They also confirmed that SDF units could take part in areas where armed force is not required, in an attempt to satisfy a request from the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

SDP Threatens 'Physical Tactics' on PKO Bill

OW1305063392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0610 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Defense Agency Director General Sohei Miyashita said Wednesday the agency may send a research team of Self-Defense Forces (SDF) uniform officers to Cambodia before the enactment of a bill that would allow SDF personnel to join the U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Miyashita made the remark in response to questions from ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) member Shigeto Nagano at a meeting of a special committee of the opposition-controlled House of Councillors.

Miyashita said the agency may dispatch the research team to Cambodia before the bill is passed into law because otherwise SDF personnel may not be in time to make an effective contribution to the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

Miyashita said the so-called U.N. peacekeeping cooperation law will go into force three months after its passes the Diet.

But Miyashita said the agency will not dispatch the SDF's research team to Cambodia before the bill passes through the upper house in light of the bill's politically sensitive nature.

The bill, needing approval by both houses of parliament to become law, passed the House of Representatives early last December.

In a related development, Social Democratic Party (SDP) Chairman Makoto Tanabe told Chairman Akira Yamagishi of Japan's largest trade union Rengo that the SDP will physically resist the passing of the bill through the upper house if the LDP forces it through.

"It will take three nights and four days for the bill to pass through the upper house (if the LDP forces it to do so)," he said.

Yamagishi persuaded Tanabe not to take such a tactic, saying Rengo does not want the SDP to adopt "physical tactics" to resist the passing of the bill through the upper house.

On Japan's participation in the U.N. peacekeeping missions, Tanabe reiterated the SDP will back a bill to dispatch nonmilitary and civilian personnel overseas to join UNTAC and other U.N. peacekeeping operations.

The SDP has rejected a bill to enable SDF personnel to join UNTAC, whose efforts will reach their peak from June through September with the demobilization of the government and guerrilla forces to keep peace following the 13-year civil war.

Oil Firms To Launch Joint Saudi Oil Venture

OW1205084692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—Four Japanese oil companies said Tuesday they will incorporate a new firm to promote a joint Japan-Saudi Arabia oil project.

The undertaking calls for the construction of oil refining facilities in Japan and Saudi Arabia with daily capacity of 450,000 barrels and 300,000 barrels, respectively.

Feasibility studies are currently under way in both countries.

The Japanese group consists of Nippon Oil Co., Japan's top distributor of oil products, Nippon Mining Co., Arabian Oil Co., and Caltex Oil Japan K.K.

The group said the new company, named Japan-Saudi Arabia project Promotion Co., will be capitalized at 325 million yen and incorporated in Tokyo on June 30.

Nippon Oil will share 150 million yen of the capital, while Nippon Mining and Caltex will put up 75 million yen each. Arabian oil will contribute the remaining 25 million yen, the group said.

The new company will be absorbed by a Japanese-Saudi Arabian joint venture to be incorporated next year, it said.

Keidanren Favors Increase in Imported Labor

OW1205130392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1226 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—The Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) said Tuesday the government should consider allowing foreign manual laborers into Japan to compensate for the nation's dwindling workforce.

It was the first time the organization has directly referred to the need to accept foreign manual laborers in Japan under certain conditions.

The government does not currently allow such workers to enter the country.

Keidanren said that aside from using more women and senior citizens to tackle the labor shortage, foreigners are also another source of workers.

But it also said some 200,000 foreigners already on the job in Japan illegally must be dealt with.

Keidanren said clear rules must be set up regarding the acceptable number of foreign workers, their period of stay and what jobs they would be entitled to.

According to the organization's estimates, Japan will be short 5 million workers by the year 2000, about 7 percent of the total labor demand. The estimate assumes 3.5 percent annual growth in the gross national product (GNP) for the remainder of the decade.

Keidanren also called for improving training systems for foreigners. It included possible extention of their length of stay in Japan and establishement of a technical training system that helps trainees find jobs in their own country.

Noda: Economic Recovery To Begin in Summer

OW1205055192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0510 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—Japan's economic recovery will start this summer or fall, the director general of the Economic Planning Agency forecast Tuesday.

Takeshi Noda, speaking in a lecture meeting sponsored by KYODO News Service, said that Japan's industrial production is likely to begin a gradual recovery this summer or fall, when companies are expected to finish reducing their inventories to optimum levels.

He noted that Japan's housing starts are recovering after hitting bottom in March and that corporate capital spending started to increase early this year, as shown by a recent rise in machinery orders.

Commenting on the scheduled ministerial meeting of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) next week, Noda expressed doubts about the stepped-up pump-priming measures that Western industrial nations are expected to ask Japan to undertake.

He said Japan needs sustainable, gradual economic growth rather than short-term stimulation measures.

Securities Industry Sets New Financing Rules

OW1305085992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0848 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Japan's securities industry unveiled Wednesday a set of new rules for brokerage houses to underwrite new shares to be issued by corporations to raise funds.

The Japan securities dealers association said the new rules, to be enforced July 1, avoid setting uniform regulations so that brokerage houses can take part in equity financing at their own discretion.

The association said the new rules require securities companies to take the prevalent market situation into account in setting terms of new issues.

They will refrain from underwriting new shares if they deem the issue terms extremely inappropriate, the association said.

Corporations will be advised to postpone their issue plans for an adequate period in case the price of new shares is remarkably lower than that of their previous issues to raise funds, it said.

Securities firms will underwrite new issues only when the dividend paid by the issuers in the preceding business

year tops 5 yen per share and their earnings after the corporate tax is paid exceed 10 yen per share, the association said.

The association said the number of new shares to be issued per year will be held below 15 percent of the total outstanding shares or below 20 percent in case of convertible bonds and warrants.

Steelmakers Decide To Continue Production Cuts

OW1305103492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0931 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Steelmakers will continue production cuts in the second quarter of fiscal 1992, raising concern that Japan's crude steel output in the year may fall below 100 million tons, industry sources said Wednesday.

The sources said steel companies decided to enforce production cutbacks because of slow demand from automobile and electric appliance manufacturers.

Steelmakers began to reduce production in October last year.

The sources said production in the January-March period of this year was down 13.6 percent from a year earlier at 24.18 million tons.

Output for the April-June period stood at an estimated 24.15 million tons, down from 27.44 million tons the year before, they said.

Shigeyoshi Fukazawa, vice president of NKK Corp., predicted steel production for the current fiscal year which ends next March 31 would fall below 100 million tons unless the domestic economy makes a strong recovery in the latter half of the year.

Production for the first half of the current fiscal year is estimated to be a low 48.5 million tons, the sources said.

Yoshiro Sasaki, vice president of Nippon Steel Corp., expressed optimism, saying steelmakers are expected to complete inventory adjustments by June through the production cutbacks.

The sources, however, disagreed with his outlook, saying it is unlikely that demand for steel will pick up in the near future in view of ongoing production adjustments by automakers.

They added that it will take some time for the government's pump-priming measures to take effect.

Daihatsu Cuts Vehicle Production by 10 Percent

OW0805093592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0846 GMT 08 May 92

[Text] Osaka, May 8 KYODO—Daihatsu Motor Co. said Friday it is cutting production by 10 percent to deal with a slump in sales of minicars.

Company officials said Daihatsu is slowing the speed of assembly lines for the minicar Mira as well as the subcompact Charade and the commercial vehicle HiJet.

Daihatsu is also considering curtailing overtime and work on holidays for assembly line workers and reducing hiring of new graduates next spring, the officials said.

Daihatsu sales in the first quarter of this year fell 7 percent from a year earlier to 129,000 vehicles, the officials said. Sales fell 18 percent for the mainstay model Mira and remained stagnant for the Charade and the HiJet.

In April, Japan's sales of minivehicles, or vehicles with engine displacements of below 660 cc, fell 10.7 percent from a year earlier to 134,595 for the 12th consecutive year-on-year fall.

MHI To Move Into Industrial-Use Chip Market

OW1105000192 Tokyo KYODO in English 2310 GMT 10 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. (MHI) will branch out into the industrial-use hybrid integrated circuit (IC) market on a full scale, the NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN reported Monday.

The major manufacturer of heavy electrical machinery started development of such chips for use in its own construction machines, rolling stock, and industrial plants, the industrial daily said.

In 1990, the company began to manufacture the ICs at its equipment center in Nagoya and circuit boards at its shipyards in Nagasaki and Kobe.

Mitsubishi recently decided to sell the ICs to other companies and promote development and manufacture of high value-added ICs based on the know-how it has amassed in the fields of machinery and industrial plants, the daily said.

The market for industrial-use electronic equipment has been growing rapidly in recent years, with annual sales of such equipment estimated at 1 trillion yen, it said.

Mitsubishi intends to post annual sales of around 10 billion yen in the new division, the daily said.

One-, Two-Megabit Mask ROM Chips Developed

OW1105094192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0900 GMT 11 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—NKK Corp., a major Japanese steelmaker, said Monday it has developed two kinds of mask read-only memory (ROM) chips to hold information for use in video game players and word processors.

The one- and two-megabit chips have an access time of 25 nanoseconds and can keep information even if power is shut off, NKK officials said.

Memory access time is the period it takes for a piece of data in storage to be transferred to or from the central processing unit. A nanosecond is one billionth of a second.

The company will begin worldwide sample shipments of the chips in August, with mass production slated for April 1993, the officials said.

NKK has been rapidly diversifying into other businesses such as electronics, computers, and chemicals over the past few years.

MITI on Office To Promote Environmental Goals

OW1205050892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0314 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) set up a special office Tuesday to promote measures to protect the environment and make efficient use of energy.

MITI Minister Kozo Watanabe told reporters after a regular cabinet meeting that the new office will study how to ensure that the nation's industrial and economic structure is built up in a way that does the least damage to the environment.

He said this study will be one of its projects for fiscal 1993, which starts next April. The office will bring together the heads of 17 different departments within MITI.

The move is aimed at pursuing comprehensive policies to balance economic growth and energy consumption with environmental concerns, Watanabe said.

Among issues to be studied by the office will be ways to save energy, thorough reform of the energy demand-and-supply structure to cope with curbs on emissions of carbon dioxide, development of basic technology to protect the environment, and transfer of Japan's technology to developing countries, he said.

Watanabe expressed confidence about overcoming difficulties to make environmental protection compatible with economic growth and with the development of technology in Japan.

"Aggregate measures for economic growth, energy, and the environment as a whole will lead to a thorough solution," he said.

North Korea

Remains of 15 U.S. Soldiers Returned in Panmunjom

SK1305105692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Panmunjom May 13 (KCNA)—Remains of American soldiers unearthed in the area of the northern half of Korea were delivered to the U.S. forces side by the side of the Korean People's Army [KPA] here in Panmunjom today.

Delegates of both sides, upon authorization, met on the Military Demarcation Line in the area of the Conference Hall of Panmunjom. Then delegates of the U.S. forces came over to the northern portion of Panmunjom in the Joint Security Area and confirmed the remains of 15 American soldiers.

Then the KPA side delivered coffins carrying the remains of American soldiers to the U.S. forces side.

At the end of the delivery, Lieut. Gen. of the KPA Kwon Chung-yong met with reporters.

Saying the delivery of remains between the military authorities of the two sides came entirely as a result of the humanitarian stand and sincere efforts of the DPRK Government, he explained how it happened.

According to him, the U.S. forces side sent letters twice in March and April to the KPA side requesting the delivery of remains of American soldiers to the U.S. military.

It also took opportunities of meeting with our members at Panmunjom to repeatedly raise this question.

From the humanitarian point of view, the KPA side decided to hand over first the remains of 15 American soldiers ready to be delivered out of the remains of 30 American soldiers unearthed.

This is the first delivery of remains ever made to the U.S. military authorities since the delivery of remains of American soldiers began, he said, expressing the belief that this will be conducive to deepening mutual understanding and trust, easing the tensions on the Korean peninsula and improving relations between Korea and the United States.

Maj. Gen. Record expressed deep thanks to the DPRK Government for the unearthing and delivery of the remains of 15 American soldiers, and handed over a letter of thanks to the KPA side on behalf of the "U.N. Forces Command."

Details of Joint Nuclear Control Talks Reported

SK1305050392 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] The fourth meeting of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Commission [JNCC] was held in camera on the South side's area of Panmunjom on 12 May. After the meeting, Choe U-chin, chairman of our side, gave a news briefing.

According to him, our side said that epochal agreements enabling all fellow countrymen to see the horizon of reunification in the 1990's were reached at the seventh North-South high-level talks held a few days ago and that the two sides agreed on important issues at a contact

between the delegates to discuss formation and operation of the North-South JNCC on 14 March. But only a few days remain until the deadline on which the two sides agreed to implement these important issues. Our side stressed that in view of this, today's meeting is especially significant.

Our side pointed out that if the current talks are to have excellent results, it is important for the two sides to stand on the sincere position of faithfully implementing all paragraphs of the joint denuclearization declaration and of the agreement on formation and operation of the North-South JNCC.

Our side faithfully worked out drafts of an agreement for implementing the joint declaration and the rules of inspection for verifying denuclearization, its supplement, in accordance with the Joint Declaration on Denuclearization and the Agreement on the Formation and Operation of the JNCC. The South side contended that an agreement on the implementation of the Joint Declaration on Denuclearization was not necessary because the paragraphs of the agreement are obligatory, and brought up only inspection of military bases and special inspection which were not specified in any paragraph, not to mention inspection of U.S. nuclear weapons and bases in the rules of inspection. Thus, the South side laid artificial obstacles to implementation of the joint declaration.

Our side stressed it is also important for the two sides to assume an attitude and position that will resolve the problems thoroughly in accordance with our country's concrete realities.

Our side pointed out that the beginning of the nuclear issue in our country was when South Korea consented to let the United States bring in nuclear weapons. Our side strongly urged the South side to respond without delay to our principle of simultaneously dispelling suspicion by designating the sites of inspection, form inspection groups accordingly, and do the first inspection of all sites at the same time in keeping with the objective reality of deep-rooted misunderstanding and distrust between the North and the South.

Our side pointed out that it is important to be correctly aware of the purpose of denuclearization: to permanently liberate our nation from the calamities of a nuclear war by removing the danger of nuclear war at its source.

Our side stressed that the South side should respond to our reasonable, just, and fair proposal that the two sides do not develop nuclear weapons, do not join in threats nor conspire to threaten the other side, and make joint efforts not only to remove the existing nuclear danger but also to prevent a nuclear threat from outside under the nuclear powers' guarantee of a nonnuclear position on the Korean peninsula.

Our side put forward an epochal proposal to have contacts of members on the premise that the Agreement for the Implementation of the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and its supplement Rules of Inspection for Verifying the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula are adopted in one package, and enter into the discussion of practical issues on the rules of inspection and the draft of the text of the agreement.

Our side stressed that such a proposal reflects our firm will and sincere position to adopt the documents, which are required for verifying denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, by the end of May at the latest and to have inspection at an early date. This proposal is also a clear expression of our great concession and sincere efforts for a settlement of and a breakthrough in the deadlocked JNCC.

Our side made it clear that adoption of the documents necessary for verifying denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and conducting inspection within the time already agreed on by both sides depends entirely on the South side's attitude toward our monumental and active proposal.

The South side, while admitting that the sides are pressed for time in adopting the documents necessary for verifying the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, came to the meeting again without a draft agreement for implementing the joint declaration and deliberately laid obstacles to the talks, insisting on inspection of the same number of sites and special inspections, which it had proposed earlier.

In this regard, our side asked the South side whether it was willing to honestly implement the Joint Declaration on Denulearization, and whether it was really willing to adopt the necessary documents within the time agreed upon. Our side again urged the South side to present a draft agreement today or to discuss as one package in members' contacts the draft rules of inspection and draft agreement which we presented. However, the South side continuously insisted on discussing only its draft rules of inspection while adhering to delaying tactics using various types of unreasonable pretexts.

Thanks to our side's positive and sincere efforts, it was agreed at yesterday's talks to have a members' contact on 15 May to discuss the agreement and rules of inspection as one package and have the fifth meeting of the North-South JNCC on 27 May. Thus, the South side, which stubbornly opposed from the outset discussing agreements for implementing the denuclearization declaration, was forced to accept our side's just demand for discussion of the agreement.

Yesterday's talks showed our side's positive position and attitude for conducting inspection at an early date by working out agreements and rules for inspection to thoroughly implement the Joint Declaration on Denuclearization at any cost within the time agreed on by both sides. On the other hand, the South side, while attempting only to save its face, continuously laid artificial obstacles to resolving the problems for insidious purposes.

ROK Suppression of DPRK Flags Berated

SK1305052992 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0438 GMT 13 May 92

["Repressive Row To Destroy National Unity"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—It is only too natural that flags of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea were hoisted at South Korean universities and this cannot be made a target of suppression on any account. The suppressive row of the South Korean authorities is an unpardonable criminal act obstructing national unity and reunification.

NODONG SINMUN today says this in a commentary denouncing the repressive racket kicked up by the South Korean authorities after flags of the DPRK appeared on South Korean campuses.

The news analyst says:

When South Korean students hoisted flags of the DPRK and flags of the unified Korea team together with the South Korea flags at places of meetings, they reflected the popular sentiments in South Korea for achieving reunification through great national unity in the spirit of the North-South agreement. Then, how can it be a "crime" and a target of suppression?

The notorious "National Security Law" invoked by the South Korean authorities in the repressive row has lost justification to exist with the North-South agreement adopted and brought into effect. Therefore, it must be scrapped.

The suppression has made it all the clearer that the "National Security Law" of South Korea is an evil law against reunification and the nation, and national reconciliation and unity between the North and the South can never be achieved with it left intact.

The South Korean authorities are talking about the backstage manipulation of the "National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondaehyop) with regard to the incident. Lurking behind this allegation is an insidious intrigue to stretch a new crooked hand of repression to the patriotic students' organisation taking the lead in the movement for independence, democracy and reunification in South Korea and destroy it.

Nobody, however, can stop the grand march of the nation toward reunification.

The South Korean authorities should look squarely at the trend of the time and abolish the anti-reunification fascist "National Security Law" without delay and immediately stop the suppression of pro-reunification patriotic forces.

South Korea

Under Secretary of State Kanter Arrives in Seoul

SK1305071592 Seoul YONHAP in English
0450 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—U.S. Undersecretary of State Arnold Kanter arrived in Seoul Wednesday afternoon for talks on North Korean nuclear issues and future Pyongyang-Washington relations.

Kanter, in charge of political affairs, is on his first Asian tour since he took office last October. He represented the United States in January in the first official high-level contact between Pyongyang and Washington.

He will meet Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok and discuss the results of the seventh inter-Korean prime ministers' talks last week and overall Seoul-Pyongyang relations, Foreign Ministry officials said.

They will also discuss political changes around the Korean peninsula, bilateral security and eonomic issues as well as the the Los Angeles riots.

Yi is expected to ask for Washington to take a keen interest in reconstruction of Koreatown in Los Angeles and early compensation for the Korean-American victims of the riots.

Yi and Kanter will reaffirm the agreed position that the United States will not begin high-level talks with North Korea until Pyongyang accepts International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and inter-Korean mutual nuclear inspections, the officials said.

The U.S. Undersecretary will meet President No Tae-u on Thursday and leave for Japan on Friday to continue his Asian tour.

Discusses Issues With Foreign Minister

SK1305095592 Seoul YONHAP in English
0937 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States reaffirmed their position Wednesday that North Korea must accept inter-Korean mutual nuclear inspection on top of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspection.

The United States urged close bilateral cooperation to stop North Korea's missile sales and said the two Koreas must set up "effective" measures to dispel suspicion of Pyongyang's nuclear arms development.

U.S. Undersecretary of State Arnold Kanter met South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok for an hour and discussed results of last week's seventh inter-Korean prime ministers' talks and tuesday's Joint Nuclear Control Commission (JNCC) session, Chong Tae-ik, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's American Affairs Bureau, said after the meeting.

"North Korea's nuclear problem was the main topic at the talks," Chong said.

Yi and Kanter agreed that removing suspicion on North Korea's nuclear buildup is mandatory for stability on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia, he said.

Kanter called for effective nuclear verification regime, which ministry officials say implies U.S. insistence on including "special inspection" on sites designated unilaterally by one side.

The U.S. undersecretary repeated that there will be no upgrading in Pyongyang-Washington dialogue channel without successful nuclear inspection, Chong said.

Kanter arrived in Seoul Wednesday afternoon as part of his Asian tour, the first since he took office last October.

He said he emphasized the importance of inter-Korean mutual nuclear inspection to Chinese officials before his Seoul visit and plans to make the point clear to Japan, his next destination.

The two countries addressed relatively a new issue, North Korea's missile sales, according to Chong.

The U.S. Government did not yet have time to confirm a report by the Carnegie Endowment that quoted North Korean officials as saying Pyongyang is willing to join the U.S.-sponsored Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).

North Korean foreign minister told visitors from Carnegie that it will join the MTCR which prohibits exports of missiles of 300km range or more.

The U.S. official expressed deep concern about missile proliferation and urged for Seoul-Washington cooperation to prevent such proliferation, Chong said.

Kanter expressed regrets about the damage sustained by Korean residents in Los Angeles by the recent riots and promised U.S. federal government's "best efforts" for early reconstruction and compensation for the victimized Koreans, officials said.

Yi Urges More Equality With U.S.

SK1305081292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0311 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States agreed that South Korea should play a leading role for peace and unification on the Korean peninsula while the United States and other nations provided support and assistance for its efforts, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Wednesday.

"One of the most important tasks facing today's Korea-U.S. relationship concerns the promotion of mutual cooperation for creating an environment conducive to peace and unification of the Korean peninsula," Yi said in a luncheon address to the Korean- American Association and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Korea.

When President No Tae-u told U.S. President George Bush in January that Korea would need an American troop presence even after unification, he had in mind not only the security of Korea but the stability of Northeast Asia as a whole, Yi said in his speech, titled "New World Order and Korea-U.S. Relations."

"On the part of the United States as well, the continued stationing of its forces on the Korean peninsula under the ROK-U.S. mutual defence treaty fits into U.S. foreign policy objectives since it greatly contributes to peace and stability of the Korean peninsula as well as Northeast Asia," he said.

Korea and the United States needed to change the perception that Seoul was a perpetual recipient and Washington its permanent benefactor, he said.

The two countries should strengthen multilateral as well as bilateral cooperation by sharing equal responsibility and obligations, he said.

The Foreign Minister emphasized the need for the two countries to adapt themselves to a new kind of partnership.

"To adapt to this changing relationship may take some time because, on our part, Korea has long been accustomed to its recipient and dependent position while, the United States, on its part, has long been accustomed to its position as the benefactor," Yi said.

The key to future bilateral relations should be a genuine partnership based on mutual interests and complementarity, Yi said.

"To maintain and improve this relationship, we should reinforce mutual confidence through emphasizing mutual responsibility, obligation and equity."

Seoul and Washington would have to consolidate multilateral as well as bilateral cooperation, Yi told the luncheon group, "not only from geopolitical but also geoeconomic perspectives."

A visible feature of bilateral relations was the increasing stress placed on the trade-economic area over military-security issues, he pointed out.

"U.S. export to Korea has continued to increase, with growth rates of 24 percent in 1989, 6 percent in 1990 and 11.5 percent in 1991," Yi said. "Maintaining good economic and trade relations with Korea, therefore, is not something insignificant to the United States."

Reasons for Growing Dislike of Americans Analyzed

SK1305044692 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 May 92 p 6

[Editorial: "Foreign Nationals Preference"]

[Text] Which foreign nationals do Koreans like most? A survey conducted by a university professor on 1,976 persons—600 ordinary citizens, 407 collegians and 960

high school students—over a two month period beginning September, 1988, offers an interesting but surprising answer to this question.

It is no wonder that the Japanese are the most disliked foreign nationals among the 11 nationals listed in the 1988 survey, which was reported in The Korea Times yesterday. The Japanese who came sixth in a 1955 survey, may have been criticized for their economic egoism and racial discrimination against Korean residents there, in addition to their responsibility for the unhappy past relationship of the two neighboring countries.

But the rapid decline in the popularity of Americans in the survey is conspicuous, a discouraging trend for the two countries that maintain perhaps very close relationships in many fields.

The Americans were listed as the most liked people in the 1950s and 1960s, probably reflecting the political, economic and military relations during the course of the Korean War and the war in Vietnam. But the liking for Americans in the 1988 survey fell to ninth, really a stunning contrast.

Despite the present military links between Korea and the United States, their worsening trade friction and related U.S. pressure to open Korea's markets especially with regard to its farm products must have boosted anti-American feelings here. Nonetheless, it is to be noted that some misunderstanding among students notably about the alleged U.S. involvement in the Kwangju civil uprising and the assassination of patriotic leader Kim Ku could also have played its part.

The survey draws attention to the fact that the British are the most liked, followed by the Swiss, French and Germans, indicating that Koreans have a high regard for their political maturity, cultural heritages and tourism resources.

Yet, if another survey were conducted at this time punctured by the rioting directed against Koreans in Los Angeles and the persistent Japanese policy to sweep the Korean "comfort girls" under the mat, the survey result would be even more unfavorable to our two closest allies, an ironical but undesirable trend for the Korean people's national sentiments.

Reporter Comments on Return of Soldiers' Remains

SK1305024492 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 13 May 92 p 3

[By staff reporter Yi Song-yol]

[Text] North Korea's announcement regarding the repatriation of the remains of 30 U.N. servicemen listed as "killed in action/body not recovered" from the Korean War (1950-53) is seen as a reconciliatory gesture to improve ties with the United States.

Pyongyang said last week it will return the remains of 15 people today through Panmunjom, and those of an 15 additional people at a time to be announced later.

This would be the fourth effort at repatriating the remains of U.N. servicemen. In 1954, North Korea returned the remains of 4,023 U.N. servicemen, including 1,869 U.S. servicemen.

And North Korea repatriated the remains of five men in May 1990 and 11 more last June.

In the second and third repatriation efforts, the North refused to return the remains through the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) and insisted that a U.S. Congressional delegation receive them.

But this time, Pyongyang announced it will return the bodies through the MAC.

But the remains to be repatriated are only a fraction of the roughly 8,000 U.S. servicemen captured or missing in action during the 37 months of the war. The remains of over 2,700 servicemen from the other U.N. forces are also believed buried somewhere in North Korea.

There are 389 nonrepatriate American POWs, and some of them are believed to be alive in the North.

Among the U.S. servicemen captured, 21 refused repatriation, and it is not known how many of them are still alive and their whereabouts.

According to a United Nations Command (UNC) spokesman yesterday, most of the roughly 10,000 U.N. prisoners-of-war were imprisoned in 17 POW camps located along the North Korea-China border and died there.

Since 1954, the United States has strongly and consistently called for the return of bodies and POWs through the MAC over 80 times.

Until recently, North Korea rejected the request by the United States saying it was not the mission of the MAC.

North Korea also denied that there were any living U.S. POWs, while a Romanian who defected to the United States in 1987 testified he had seen 50 to 70 U.S. POWs in their fifties working at a cabbage field on the outskirts of Pyongyang when he visited the North Korean capital in 1978.

The remains, following receipt by the UNC officials today, are scheduled to be transported from Panmunjom to the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii, for subsequent evaluation and identification.

After identification, they will be delivered to the next of kin.

The other 15 bodies may be delivered around May 25, Memorial Day in the United States, according to UNC sources.

During the Korean War, 33,629 U.S. servicemen were killed and 105,785 were wounded.

Steel Producers Preparing Dumping Charge Defense

SK1305093692 Seoul YONHAP in English
0838 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—South Korean steel producers are preparing to file anti-dumping charges against U.S. steel exporters in response to indiscriminate U.S. dumping allegations, the Korea Iron and Steel Association said Wednesday.

The association said it was collecting detailed materials to file dumping charges against the United States concerning exports of hot coil and a few other steel products.

U.S. steelmakers were reportedly preparing for anti-dumping charges against Korean-exported hot coil and cold-rolled steel sheet late this month or early next month, the association said.

Korea imported 228 million U.S. dollars of U.S.-produced hot coil last year and 34 million dollars in the first quarter of this year, up 67.9 percent from the same period last year, the association said, claiming the import prices were low enough to call for anti-dumping charges.

Pohang Iron and Steel Mill Co., among other steelmakers, is expected to win an anti-dumping suit easily with all the damage incurred by the massive inflow of cheap foreign-made hot coil.

According to the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA), five major U.S. steel companies are likely to raise a collective anti-dumping suit against 70 items from 20 countries.

DPRK Request for Kwangju Pilgrimage Rejected

SK1305091292 Seoul YONHAP in English
0844 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea turned down Friday a North Korean request for the "Kwangju pilgrimage corps" to be allowed to cross the border into the South at the truce village of Panmunjom, saying there was no agreement between the relevant authorities.

Kang Yong-hun, president of the Korean National Red Cross, sent a telephone message conveying Seoul's official rejection of the northern proposal to Yi Song-ho, acting president of the northern Red Cross.

Mun Kyong-tok, chairman of a North Korean Student Committee, sent Unification Minister Choe Ho-chung a message on Tuesday informing him that 500 North Korean students would enter South Korea at Panmunjom on Friday.

It said the federation of student councils in Kwangju and the North Korean committee had agreed to hold a memorial ceremony for the 1980 Kwangju uprising and asked Choe to guarantee the safety of the North Korean students.

North, South Plan To Fight Rice Weevils

SK1305091092 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
12 May 92 p 2

[Article by reporter Yi Sang-chol]

[Excerpts] The North and South Korean authorities are making a cooperative effort for ridding rice of weevils. [passage omitted]

It was on 7 May, during the seventh round of the South-North high-level talks, that the authorities of the South and North began talking about the need to eradicate rice weevils. The subject cropped up while Yon Hyong-muk, premier of North Korea's State Administration Council, was engaged in an informal conversation with our side's delegation, including Prime Minister Chong Won-sik.

During the conversation, Premier Yon said that last year North Korea had suffered a severe blow in its rice farming because of pests, and pointed out rice weevils as the main culprit.

Then, Premier Yon asked whether the South also suffered from rice weevils and sounded out the South side's opinion about a effort to eradicate the insects, saying that if no measures are taken against them, the South will also be hit by rice weevils which will be carried to the South with the wind. [passage omitted]

Following this, at a recent meeting of senior advisers to the President at Chongwadae, Kim Chong-hwi, senior secretary to the Presidential Office for Diplomatic and Security Affairs and deputy head of our side's delegation to the North-South high-level talks, made a report on North Korea's hope for the joint eradication of rice weevils.

At this meeting, it was decided to provide North Korea with insecticides to eradicate rice weevils as part of the North-South exchange and cooperation program, and to discuss this issue at future contacts between authorities of North and South Korea. In this way, it became possible for the authorities to make joint efforts to eradicate rice weevils. [passage omitted]

Rocket Technology Accord Reached With PRC

SK1305065992 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 12 May 92 p 1

[Report from Beijing-based correspondent Chon Taek-won]

[Text] A Chinese official disclosed on 12 May that the ROK and China have agreed to cooperate on a long-term basis in the aircraft manufacturing and rocket industries. The concerned official said the two countries will exchange an agreement on 30 May in Seoul regarding the exchange of technology and information, mutual trade, and joint production and export in the fields of basic materials industries development, civil aviation, and the rocket industry, and in some fields of the defense industry.

According to the official, such an agreement thus far has been worked out between China's Ministry of Aeronautics and Astronautics Industry and Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade and the ROK's Ministry of Trade and Industry. However, because the two countries have no diplomatic relations, the agreement will be signed publicly by the China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corporation [CATIC] and the International Monetary and Financial Corporation from the Chinese side and an organ concerned from the ROK side.

The official added that during the period from 26 February to 8 March, five specialists from the ROK side made an observation tour of aircraft industry facilities in Beijing and the underground military supplies production facilities in Guizhou Province, which have not been opened to the outside.

According to the official, the ROK specialists found during the observation tour that compared to their on-the-spot survey in the United States and Russia, Chinese equipment and facilities were superior to the United States and Russia in technology and price.

The official said that the ROK is still at the assembling stage in the aircraft manufacturing industry. However, China has an independent production technology, in addition to production technology under U.S. license, in its aircraft manufacturing and rocket industries, and its production technology has reached world level. The Chinese side is to provide its advanced technology in this field to the ROK.

The official said: If the ROK and China maintain their cooperation in the aircraft manufacturing and rocket industries for seven to eight years, in the future, they will not only rank first in Asia, outrunning Japan, in the aircraft manufacturing and rocket industries, but will be able to export coproducts of the two countries to Southeast Asian countries, including Thailand and Malaysia, and even North Korea.

Despite its purchase of aircraft and spare parts amounting to as much as $20 billion annually from the United States, which is virtually the only country from which it purchases, the ROK has been forced to purchase spare parts at a high price, while being blocked from receiving technology. It is believed that China, perceiving the situation facing the ROK, is attempting to gain technological cooperation, which is difficult to expect from the United States and Japan, through cooperation with the ROK.

The Chinese side will dispatch a six-member delegation led by Tang Xiaoping, vice president of the CATIC, to the ROK on 24 May to exchange the agreement.

Samsung To Build Petrochemical Plant in Iran

SK1305033992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0221 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—Samsung Engineering, a subsidiary of the Samsung Business Group, signed a 108 million-U.S.-dollar contract for a petrochemical plant with TPC, a firm under the control of Iran's Petroleum Ministry in Tehran on Monday, a company spokesman said Wednesday.

Under the contract, Samsung will build a production plant for raw materials of synthetic rubber and finished goods with an annual capacity of 57,000 tons in the Tabriz petrochemical complex, 600 kilometers northwest of Tehran.

Exports to Latin America Boost Trade Surplus

SK1305084892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0753 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—First-quarter exports to South and Central America were up 43.6 percent over a year earlier at 859 million U.S. dollars, the Trade and Industry Ministry said Wednesday.

Annual exports rose 36.8 percent in 1991 to 2,879 million dollars and 20.9 percent in 1990 to 2,104 million dollars, a Ministry spokesman said.

In January-March, Korea posted a 270 million-dollar trade surplus with the region, nearing half its surplus of 581 million dollars for all of last year.

Mexico, Panama and eight others out of 33 South and Central American countries purchased 752 million dollars of Korea-made products, up 71 percent. Exports to Argentine jumped 405.6 percent to 127 million dollars during the three months.

Shipment of electronic goods, mostly home appliances, soared 65 percent and cars 283 percent to 377 million dollars and 370 million dollars, respectively, and textile exports climbed 40 percent to 184 million dollars.

The share of Korean exports taken by South and Central American nations is on the increase, reaching 5.1 percent in the first quarter from 4 percent last year and 3.2 percent in 1990.

Export growth to Latin American nations was especially marked because their economies are recovering, and facilities investment and export-oriented imports are flourishing, a Ministry official said.

Nuclear Plants Faltering, Energy Shortage Feared

SK1305044892 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 May 92 p 8

[Text] Korea faces a looming power shortage this summer because of frequent breakdowns of nuclear power plants coupled with a sharp rise in consumption.

Nuclear power unit No. 1 at Kori, Kyongsangnam-to, broke down on Saturday, the third time this year.

Even if power generation was resumed Monday, energy planners are concerned that the breakdown of nuclear power plants might occur during the hot summer, traditionally the high-demand season.

Saturday's Kori breakdown is known to be the eight this year among the nation's nine nuclear power stations.

The breakdown of nuclear power plants has soared sharply in recent years with the figure climbing to 24 cases last year from 13 in 1989 and 18 in 1990.

The nation's power reserve ratio plunged to a dangerous low of 2 to 3 percent last summer as breakdowns hit nuclear power plants. At that time, power supply to hundreds of major production plants had to be "limited" for hours, the first rationing ever in recent years.

Burma

Khin Nyunt at Meeting on Border Development

BK1305022192 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 May 92

[Excerpts] Meeting No. 1/92 of the Work Committee for Development of Border Regions and National Races [WCDBRNR] was held at 1400 this afternoon in the new hall of the Ministry of Defense. Major General Khin Nyunt, chairman of the WCDBRNR and secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] attended and delivered an address the meeting. [passage omitted]

In his opening address, Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt said projects for development of border regions and national races were initiated in 1989 and that over the last three years the targets set for development of transport, health, education, energy needs, agriculture, forestry, livestock breeding, communications, trade, and cooperatives sectors for fraternal national races in the border regions had been fully met. [passage omitted]

He said once the border regions become more developed, efforts will be made to end the tradition of opium cultivation and the production of narcotic drugs. He said opium crop substitution and livestock breeding projects are being implemented more extensively in former opium cultivation areas in order to meet the local people's needs for food, clothing and shelter, and their economic needs. He added that public service personnel who are working selflessly amid difficulties for the development of border regions and the national races in the border regions must be commended and acknowledged.

Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt explained that during the 1991-92 fiscal year a total of Kyat 524.35 million was spent. Of this amount, Kyat 194.04 million was spent by various committees of the WCDBRNR from the Border Region Development Fund and Kyat 330.31 million was spent by the ministries. He said the total amount spent by the state over the past three years was Kyat 784 million—Kyat 386.06 million from the Border Region Development Fund and Kyat 398 million from the fund of the ministries. He said due to the fund provided by the state and relentless efforts made by the personnel concerned the projects are being implemented with almost 100 percent success. [passage omitted]

Next, Major Tin U, deputy chairman of the WCDBRNR and SLORC secretary-2, spoke, saying that there has been success and progress in the implementation of projects for the development of border regions and national races and that the people in the border areas are beginning to enjoy the results of these projects. He said the success is due to the efforts of the personnel involved in the project. He called on personnel concerned to implement the projects with sustained momentum in accordance with the instructions on the border region development project given by General Than Shwe, chairman of the SLORC. He said as the state is spending nearly Kyat 800 million it is necessary for the personnel concerned to provide necessary supervision for the effective use of the state funds in the projects.

Next, the representatives from the Northern Military Command, the Northeast Military Command, and the Eastern Military Command, the Eastern Shan State Law and Order Restoration Council, the Kayah State Law and Order Restoration Council, the Northwest Military Command, and the Western Military Command; chairmen of subcommittees of the WCDBRNR; and responsible officials reviewed work related to project implementation during the 1991-92 fiscal year and discussed the project targets and fund allocation for the 1992-93 fiscal year. [passage omitted]

In his closing address, Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt said the SLORC will continue to work along the path of its set target in accordance with its three cardinal tasks. He said the 135 indigenous races of Burma have lived in harmony through weal and woe since time immemorial and struggled together under servitude [colonial rule] to obtain independence through national unity. They had remained united.

He said the future objective of the SLORC is to ensure prevention of the disintegration of the Union, prevention of disintegration of national unity, and perpetuation of national sovereignty. The border region development scheme has contributed greatly to national unity. He called on the local development bodies to review and submit projects which are genuinely needed by and beneficial for the local people and to coordinate their work according to the set priorities.

The meeting ended at 1830.

SLORC's Resolve To Continue Reforms Viewed

BK1305043092 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0140 GMT 13 May 92

[LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN 13 May editorial: "Public Participation in Implementing National Tasks;" from the "Press Review" program]

[Text] The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC]—the Defense Services—is continuing its momentum on work for economic, political, social, and religious development in the state. As the SLORC will continue to work in accordance with its set objective, it is necessary for public service personnel and the public to discharge their respective duties diligently in the interests of the state and the people of the nation.

Since General Than Shwe assumed his role as the country's leader, the SLORC has proclaimed its future programs for the state based on Declaration No. 1/90 as stated in Declaration No. 11/92 issued on 24 April 1992. It is known to all that the SLORC is presently implementing the provisions stated in Declaration No. 11/92.

The statement in the declaration concerning the convening of the national convention to draft a firm constitution is a national task that should be carried out with the participation of the whole nation with patriotism and the union spirit.

The SLORC will implement the necessary work step-by-step as declared and the entire nation should participate, consult, and coordinate unitedly in the task for drafting a new constitution, which is most important to the state.

We should also not forget that the Defense Services have suspended their military offensive in Karen State with a view to restoring national solidarity. It is necessary for the insurgents to hold a correct view and give up their policy of armed struggle and participate in the endeavors for national construction and development.

The national leaders have openly declared that there are no political, military, or economic difficulties in the country. They should realize that the SLORC—Defense Services—is not taking these measures because of the difficulties confronting it. They should take note that these measures have been taken by the SLORC—the Defense Services—out of goodwill in order to restore national solidarity.

In brief, if there is cooperation between the state and the people and between the people and the Defense Services, success will be achieved progressively as the SLORC—the Defense Services—implements its set tasks step-by-step as declared.

Commander Hosts Lunch for Convicts, Volunteers

BK0705060192 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 7 May 92

[Text] Major General Kyaw Ba, commander of the Northern Military Command and chairman of the Kachin State Law and Order Restoration Council, and his wife, Daw Khin Lay Yu hosted lunches at worksites at 1040 on 2 May for 400 persons—190 convicts, 190 volunteers from towns and villages, and 20 prison officers—who are working as volunteers at Kyaikaran Hydroelectric Power Project in Myitkyina.

Yunnan Delegation Holds Talks in Lashio

BK0805150192 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0630 GMT 8 May 92

[Excerpts] A six-member study delegation from the PRC's Yunnan Province led by Mr. (Yang Jiliang), vice governor, accompanied by U Thaung Sein, general manager from the Myanmar [Burma] Export and Import Enterprise, arrived in Lashio from Rangoon in a Myanmar Airways plane at 0945 on 2 May.

The delegation was welcomed at the airport by the deputy commander of the Northeast Command and military and civilian officials. The delegation called on Major General Maung Thint, commander of the Northeast Military Command and member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], at 1400 in the afternoon in the reception hall of the command headquarters.

While in Lashio, the delegation held cordial and frank talks on matters which are of common economic interest to the two countries and on bilateral cooperation in border trade, roads, and communications. [passage omitted]

The delegation left Lashio for Mandalay on 5 May.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Prime Minister Mahathir Discusses Environment

SK1305002992 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 12 May 92 p 3

[Interview with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed at his residence in Kuala Lumpur by reporter U Tae-yong on 10 May; first paragraph is reporter's introduction]

[Text] On 10 May Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed said that "the East Asian Economic Community [EAEC] in which ASEAN countries, the ROK, Japan, and China will participate will be formed sooner or later despite the opposition of the United States." At the meeting with this reporter that day at his residence Prime Minister Mahathir added that "East Asia will form a single market in the near future" and that to keep step with this trend "Malaysia, too, will actively invest in Vietnam."

[U Tae-yong] Malaysia has made remarkable progress under your leadership. What is your strategy for such remarkable progress?

[Mahathir] We adopted the eastward-looking policy in the 1980's. Of course, prior to adopting the eastward-looking policy we adopted the westward-looking policy of following the model of Western advanced countries. However, we found that East Asian countries such as Japan, the ROK, Hong Kong, and Taiwan were better models for our country. In particular, the ROK was more backward than Malaysia in the past, but it has made rapid progress and now stands ahead of us.

The ROK's development has given us the hope that even developing countries can make progress. We learned about the Saemaul [New Village] Movement in the ROK. We also learned about the Korean people's attitude of devotion. The ROK taught us many things. Malaysia has achieved rapid development because it has adopted the eastward-looking policy.

[U Tae-yong] What is Malaysia's national goal for the future?

[Mahathir] We exported only such raw materials as rubber, tin, palm oil, and timber in the past, and our annual income per capita was only $200-$300. So, to eliminate such poverty we adopted the policy of industrialization. During the 20 years since then, our annual economic growth has been 6.7 percent on average, and, at the same time, we have strengthened the competitive power of our industries. The present annual per capita income is $2,700. We have found a rule for development suitable to our situation. Our future goal is to increase our annual per capita income to $16,000 by 2020. This goal is possible with an annual economic growth rate of 7 percent, but our present annual growth rate reaches 8 to 10 percent. So, I think there will be no problem in achieving the annual per capita income of $16,000. This is the "Vision 2020" that we are now seeking.

[U Tae-yong] With its economic development Malaysia has been subjected to blame from Western advanced countries, including the United States, over the environmental issue due to its logging of tropical trees.

[Mahathir] I don't understand why advanced countries attack us over the environmental issue. The governments of developed countries have been subjected to criticism from their own people over the environmental issue. I think that they are trying to direct the arrow of such criticism at other countries. Of course, we produce timber. But, Western advanced countries produce more timber than we do. Nevertheless, they call our logging of tropical trees "a criminal act against forests." They also claim that the natives in jungle areas should live in the jungle areas. However, the natives are citizens of Malaysia. They also have the freedom of movement of their residence. They have the right to lead a happy, cultural life in urban areas. The natives in jungle areas are suffering from malaria and poisonous insects. Their span of life is very short. Western advanced countries argue that Malaysia is destroying the natural invironment, because the logs that they process cannot compete with our logs.

[U Tae-yong] Voices calling for a new world order have risen since the collapse of the cold war. What do you think about this?

[Mahathir] I believe the United Nations should be reorganized as part of a new world order. The UN system centered on the five permanent members of the Security Council worked for a short time after World War II. However, the world has changed.

Moreover, the new world order should be made accessible to every country on earth. During the East-West cold war period, we stood with the West in order to defend democracy. However, the situation has changed.

For example, in our country workers in the electronic industrial sector should form a trade union at each plant, but they should not be allowed to form a single national trade union. This is because a single unified trade union is too strong to control. Each factory should determine how to take care of the workers' welfare.

Trade unions in advanced countries like the United States say that our country can be competitive because our workers do nothing but work. They have no national trade union, not to mention that they do not go on strike. Of course, it is true that wages in our country are low.

Trade unions in advanced countries demanding high wage cannot compete with our workers, so they try to influence trade unions in our country to get higher wages and eventually make them lose the competitive edge. If and when this happens, our workers will lose their jobs; this in turn will destroy us.

Workers in Korea have raised their wages through strikes. Advanced countries should be very happy that Korean goods are no longer competitive due to high wages.

It must be recognized that even in a new world order countries are entitled to chart their own courses commensurate with their specific realities.

[U Tae-yong] Mr. Prime Minister, what is your view on human rights?

[Mahathir] Each country's policy has a different priority. Developing countries and developed countries decide priorities in policy differently. When economic development succeeds, the people's freedom will increase accordingly.

Of course, it is possible for demonstrators to crowd the streets right away. However, if demonstrations are staged daily in our Kuala Lumpur, all the shops in the city will be forced to close. What will become of the shop owner's human rights then?

If we fail in economic development, it is the people who will suffer most. Government must take responsibility for this without fail.

[U Tae-yong] Mr. Prime Minister, you proposed the establishment of the East Asia Economic Community [EAEC], whose members would include the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations, along with Korea, China, and Japan. The United States opposed it on the grounds that it is another economic bloc.

Nevertheless, you said last February that the EAEC will be realized within five years. What makes you so optimistic?

[Mahathir] Asia is growing rapidly. Investment from Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong made Malaysia's growth possible.

East Asia will continue to rely on Japanese technology and capital to grow.

When Malaysia is fully grown, it may become a market for Japan.

I recently visited Vietnam with some of our businessmen. We are going to invest in Vietnam. When

Vietnam grows, we will be able to sell a great deal of our goods to it. This means that East Asia will become a single market.

It is impossible to keep countries in this region from cooperating with each other. Whatever other countries may say about it, the EAEC will materialize. The population in East Asia stands at 18 billion.

The European Community has a population of only 350 million, and the region in North America to be covered by the North America Free Trade Agreement has 500 million. East Asia has far greater potential for markets.

UMNO Confident of Regaining Kelantan

BK0705103892 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 29 Apr 92 p 2

[Text] Kuala Terengganu, Tuesday—The United Malays National Organization [UMNO] is convinced that it will regain Kelantan in the next general elections as the Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party [PAS] is increasingly losing its influence and after the PAS was defeated in the Bukit Payong by-election last Tuesday.

UMNO Deputy President Ghafar Baba said that the PAS' failure to bring about development in Kelantan after ruling the state for two years prompted the people to realize about the need for the National Front [BN] to again rule the state.

In additon, PAS actions in several matters which run counter to the Federal Constitution are unacceptable to the people.

Ghafar said that the PAS was trying to oppose several development projects such as the construction of the Pergau hydroelectric dam for the benefit of the Kelantan people in particular.

"I believe that the BN's great victory in the Bukit Payong by-election will move to Kelantan in the next general elections," he said when welcoming the victory of BN candidate Mazlan Awang at the Atas Tol National School near here today.

Ghafar said that the UMNO is not hostile to the PAS. But the UMNO cannot cooperate with the PAS because the latter has no plans to promote the country's image.

UMNO Official Views Draft Ethics Code

BK1105091892 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 11 May 92

[Text] UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Vice President Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim has said the draft to the rulers' declaration is a government proposal and no longer that of UMNO. He said the draft, which spelled out a code of ethics prepared by UMNO for the Malay rulers, was now a government proposal and was being discussed by ministers and rulers. Datuk Sri Anwar, who is finance minister, said this when commenting on His Royal Highness the Sultan of Kelantan's rejection of the draft. The minister was speaking to reporters in Simpang near Taiping, Perak.

Police Detain 72 Illegal Indonesian Immigrants

BK1105112992 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 7 May 92 p 5

[Text] Muar, Wednesday—Seventy-two illegal Indonesian immigrants, including five women, were detained in a raid at Parit Penyengat, 19 kilometers from here early this morning.

They were detained while gathering in front of a house there at about 5 am.

All the immigrants were believed to be about to leave for another location aboard a truck.

Some of the immigrants believed to have landed on the coast of Penyengat Island at about 3 am were already in the truck.

Ten members of the 8th Batallion of the Police Field Force [PFF] from Simpang Renggam had been waiting in the place since midnight following a tip-off from the public.

A police spokesman said all the immigrants were being detained at the Muar Police Station prior to their transfer to the Immigration Department for repatriation.

Some illegal immigrants tried to escape when PFF members conducted the raid and policemen rushed to the area to find them.

Some of them suffered from face injuries after tripping over palm fronds while trying to escape before being detained by the police.

Singapore

Opinions on 2d Malaysian Bridge Reported

Plans Should Be Postponed

BK0905020892 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 8 May 92 p 3

[Text] Singapore should put on hold its plans for a second link with Johor as there was no consensus within the Malaysian political leadership on the matter, said the MP [Member of Parliament] for Braddell Heights, Mr Goh Choon Kang last night.

Keeping the plan in abeyance would be the best way to avoid any further misunderstanding and give the Malaysians time to "sort things out among themselves," he said.

Speaking at a People's Action Party branch gathering in Braddell Heights, he said: "It is better that we proceed with the plan only after they have reached a consensus so that we would not once again be accused of being insensitive."

He was commenting on newspaper reports earlier this week in which Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, Malaysia's Minister for Information, called for a review of the second link in the light of what he described as unfriendly signals from the Republic.

He noted that the Malaysian minister, 'who is also the UMNO [United Malays National Organization] secretary-general, had accused Singapore of "being selfish, thinking only of its own interests without any consideration for the feelings of its neighbours."

Mr Goh said: "In my view, Singapore should go along with Datuk Mohamed's wish, and that is, to have second thoughts on the proposed second link, in order not to be accused of being 'insensitive.' We should be sensitive of his feelings."

On the other hand, the MP pointed out, the Malaysian Finance Minister, Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim, was reported as saying that the second link should proceed as planned as it would benefit both countries.

Johor's Mentri Besar, [Chief Minister] Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, was quoted as saying that the second link was "a bridge of friendship" which must be built to strengthen ties and spur growth on both sides.

Referring to such "conflicting if not confusing signals," Mr. Goh said: "When the other side is not sending clear but confusing signals, it is only prudent on our part to hold back temporarily.

"Otherwise, everything we do will be misinterpreted as being only to further our own interests or being insensitive to their feelings."

Minister: Project Should Continue

BK1205065292 Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 May 92 p

[Text] Barring hiccups, Singapore is continuing with plans on the second link to Johor, Minister of State for National Development Lim Heng Kiang said yesterday.

He said that his ministry was "concerned and a bit puzzled" by recent remarks made by Malaysian Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, who had called for a review of the project.

But the ministry was very reassured by the statements of other Malaysian ministers, including Finance Minister Datuk Siri Anwar Ibrahim, who said that the second link should continue because it would benefit benefit both countries.

"If they think it should go on, we will also carry on," Mr. Lim said.

He added that in the past few months, the Public Works Department had been finalising with its Malaysian counterpart technical details on the construction of the bridge which is expected to be ready by 1996.

Both sides were in fact almost ready to call for tenders for consultants, he added.

"So, we assumed things were going on well until we heard the politicians there asking for a review.

"We were concerned and a bit puzzled when a Cabinet minister also asked for a review," said Mr. Lim.

Contrary to claims that Singapore was unenthusiastic about the project, he said that much of the groundwork had been done on the Singapore end of the link.

The road along Jalan Ahmad Ibrahim, which will lead to the second link, had already been extended to Tuas and work was in progress to upgrade this extension to expressway standards.

He added that his ministry would be tabling a Bill at the next sitting of Parliament to approve reclamation works off Tuas.

This would be the site of the customs and immigration offices at Singapore's end of the expressway, Mr. Lim said.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Visits Kompong Speu 11 May

BK1205113192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 11 May 92

[Summary from poor reception] "On the morning of 11 May 1992, His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, father of the nation, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], and the royal consort, accompanied by high-ranking leaders of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the State of Cambodia, and many other leading officials paid a visit to Kompong Speu Province and presided over the inauguration of a number of important buildings in the province."

From 0600 onward, a multitude of people, young and old, with slogans, placards, and the prince's picture in hand, lined the road waiting to welcome and greet HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the royal consort.

"At about 0810, the motorcade of the prince and the royal consort arrived. HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the royal consort, accompanied by His Excellency [H.E.] Heng Samrin, honorary chairman of the CPP and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of State, and his wife; H.E. Chea Soth, standing member of the CPP Central Committee; H.E. Say Chhum, standing member of the CPP Central Committee and standing vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; and many other leading officials got out of their cars." The delegation was warmly welcomed by "Hem Than, member of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of both the Kompong Speu provincial party committee and people's committee, and his wife; and leading local officials." "Among those also present to welcome the prince and the royal consort were Lieutenant General Nhim Vanda, member of the CPP Central Committee and trade minister; Khim Bo, member of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of both the Kompong Som city party committee and people's committee; Hang Chuon, information and culture minister; Him Chhem, deputy culture minister; Lieutenant General Loy Sophat, deputy minister of national security; Vong Sot, chairman of both the Kandal provincial party committee and people's committee; So Phirun, chairman of the Takeo provincial party committee and people's committee; Kang Hean, vice chairman of the Pursat provincial people's committee; and many other leading officials."

The prince was asked to review the guards of honor. Finally, monks chanted blessing prayers, and the prince and the royal consort presented gifts to the monks. "The SNC anthem was then played" followed by welcoming songs and dances performed by pupils in the province.

Provincial governor Hem Than then made a speech welcoming the prince and the royal consort and reporting to them the achievements scored by the province, highlighting the assistance by the prince and the State of Cambodia's Government and the CPP during recent disasters, and voicing "full support for the prince father's candidacy in the forthcoming presidential election." He also thanked the CPP leadership and generous persons for their assistance to the province, singling out the chief of the provincial road and bridge service for his "resolute will in clearing ammunition from the marketplace." The provincial governor concluded his speech by appealing for continued assistance from everyone and added that "on this auspicious day, the sky is overcast making it unsually cool."

[Begin Sihanouk recording] Greetings to the clergy, excellencies, children, ladies and gentlemen, and foreign diplomats who honor my third visit to Kompong Speu Province with their presence.

I am very moved by the achievements scored under the State of Cambodia regime, which continues the tradition of the Sangkum Reas Niyum [Sihanouk's fomer political party]. "I am therefore very glad with the activities of the CPP and the State of Cambodia's Government."

"Some people have accused me saying that since my return I have been heaping unreasonable praise on the CPP and the State of Cambodia. I do not like injustice. I myself have been victim of injustice committed by foreigners and some of my compatriots."

"I have been accompanied and encouraged on various visits by the CPP leadership and I have also encouraged the latter in return. We are cooperating from now on. As H.E. Chairman of Kompong Speu Province has said, I have come to be with you, work with you, and defend and build the nation with you until I die." [applause]

The CPP has done a great deal to preserve and restore the Sanmgkum Reas Niyum's achievements. I do not want to talk much about all this lest I be accused by other parties who say that as a neutral person, I should not accuse anyone. and that from now on I should stop making accusations." "I love the children in the State of Cambodia and the CPP but I have to be neutral and not take sides. In the election, it is up to the children and compatriots to make their decisions. You are the ballot owners and the masters of your own destiny. It is up to you. You can vote for anyone. I would like to again

reaffirm that I am neutral. I am neutral. In the election, I will also abstain, meaning that my ballot will be blank; I will not vote for any party. My ballot and that of my wife do not count. I do not side with anyone. However, being neutral, I should also be just. If there is no justice, neutrality is meaningless."

I am not a child. I know who is flattering me and who is putting me down. "Some parties even killed many of my children. They say that I should not rekindle all of this. As we are entering the phase to prepare for election, I should be genuinely neutral." "I will shut my mouth now from now. I will from now on shut my mouth." "National reconciliation means that we should not look back. We should forget all the bad things. We want to create whatever provides happiness for our nation. I do not ask the CPP and the State of Cambodia's Government to do things for Sihanouk, but for our people and youth nationwide so that they develop well."

We should recall only what is good and forget what is bad. "For example, we should recall the Angkor era, when we were really developed; even the Sangkum Reas Niyum cannot rival that. No era can rival that of Angkor. This is what we should recall and use as a symbol in our national reconstruction." If we keep leveling unjust accusations, this is not real democracy. "Liberal democracy means that we have the freedom to say what we want, but this language should be just and true. We should avoid putting others down or killing our fellow countrymen. We should try to avoid violence and use nonviolence instead." "This is why in our new society, we have decided to abolish capital punishment."

The State of Cambodia has now agreed to release all prisoners, not just war prisoners. This is in accordance with our country's national interests. Unity and reconciliation are most important.

Next month, on 13 June, the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] will ask that we disarm and dissolve 70 percent of each party's troops. "Some people have said that there are still Vietnamese troops in our country, that is why we have to continue struggling. I have asked the UN forces present here to check everywhere for these Vietnamese troops. If found, these troops should be sent back to Vietnam. The UN troops have been doing this. After repeated searches, none has been found. Thus, we should stop using the issue of Vietnamese troops as an excuse for continuing the war. We should think about our nation's interests." Our national interests depend on peace and security. From now on, we should restore peace, the way it was in the Sangkum Reas Niyum. We should preserve friendship with Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos. This way we will have peace and will continue to enjoy independence and build our nation.

Once again I am very pleased with what the State of Cambodia's Government and the CPP have done. "There are of course shortcomings. I do understand this because I used to do the work myself. From the outside it looks easy, but in practice it is difficult. Criticizing is easy but getting the work done is difficult." [previous sentence in French] "On paper we can say that we can even surpass Jayavarman VII [last great king of the Angkor empire] and Suriyavarman II [builder of Angkor Wat temple]." [previous sentence in Cambodian and French]. "We should have mutual understanding."

If we are real nationalists, we should criticize constructively. "I am a neutral person. I do not have to side with any party, praise or put down any party. I appeal to the four parties to cooperate and defend and build our nation under me, whom the four parties have considered the father of the nation and head of state. Therefore, please unite. The other day, H.E. Chairman Chea Sim also stressed this unity in his speech. He said he unconditionally follows HRH Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, father of the nation, in his task to reconcile and unite the nation. This also includes uniting the four parties."

"The United Nations has asked us to appeal to the international community to come to our rescue quickly to rebuild our nation and solve whatever problems our poor people are facing. The other day in the royal palace, I presided over a grand meeting of our SNC and UNTAC. We were asked to appeal to the international community for aid. However, some politicians opposed this at the meeting. They said this should not yet be done because this appeal would benefit only the party of Chea Sim and the Hun Sen Government. I explained that this is not so. The CPP and the State of Cambodia's Government are in control of over (?90) percent of Cambodia's territory." The railroad, roads, bridges, schools, dams, canals, water policy, public health, communications, and expansion of airports are what we need to help the nation. This is not aimed at any one party. "The appeal was not aimed at helping any one Cambodian party. FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia], the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front of H.E. Son Sann, all benefit from this appeal.

"I therefore would like to take this opportunity to inform you that whatever we have done, if we say we unite, this should happen in reality, not just in words. This should be genuine. I have been asked to be neutral. I would like to again affirm that I am genuinely neutral. However, asking me not to express admiration over the construction of schools, hospitals, dams, canals, markets, bridges, and roads, I am sorry in advance for children in other parties, and I will express my admiration when I see this construction. This is a duty; it is just that this should be praised. I would like to end my speech."

I would like to once again warmly praise the CPP, the Government of the State of Cambodia, and the authorities for these achievements. This first benefits Kompong Speu Province, and second the people's living standards.

Thanks to the youths and children for welcoming me with their songs. Please accept $500, my own contribution to education in Kompong Speu Province. H.E. Chairman Heng Samrin handed me a note in which he provided Kompong Speu Province with 3 million riel for the construction of a hospital, and so on. [applause] [end recording]

"At 1100 sharp, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the royal consort took leave of leading officials of the provincial party committee and people's committee, and the people and returned to Phnom Penh."

Sihanouk Receives Thai Banking Delegation

BK1205160292 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] In the afternoon of 9 May His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, and his royal consort granted an audience at the Khemarin Palace to a joint royal Thai delegation headed by Princess Sunthri Hiranrak, member of the Management of the Cambodian Farmer's Bank.

Princess Sunthri Hiranrak informed HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk of the desire of the joint royal Thai delegation to assist Cambodia in national rehabilitation and reconstruction, particularly in the social, educational, and cultural fields. She made a donation of 500,000 baht to HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk to be used at his own discretion.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk said that he would hand that fund over to the State of Cambodia Government to finance the construction of a new stupa to house the Lord Buddha's relic in the vicinity of Vat Phnum.

Chea Sim Visits Kandal, Urges Votes for Sihanouk

BK1205153492 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 11 May 92

[Text] On 9 May Mr. Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, of the National Assembly, and of the Kampuchea United Front for National Construction and Defense National Council, accompanied by a number of high-ranking officials and leaders of Kandal Province, visited the authorities, people, and Buddhist monks of Leuk Dek District, Kandal Province, in a bid to find solutions to the local public needs. Leuk Dek District People's Committee Chairman Pech Buo-hi informed His Excellency Chea Sim of the urgent needs of the people, such as road and bridge repair, school expansion, and the restoration of the temples in Prek Dach, Kandal, and Kompong Phnom communes. Pech Buo-hi stressed that Leuk Dek District came under serious air bombings during the 1970-75 war and suffered heavy losses in property and lives at the hands of the Pol Pot regime. All of that has forced the people of Leuk Dek District to engage in local restoration from scratch.

Addressing the authorities, people, and Buddhist monks, Mr. Chea Sim highly appreciated that like those in the rest of Kandal Province, the people of Leuk Dek District over the past 13 years have spared no efforts to restore and revive all sectors of local society in line with the policy of the CPP. He stressed that only the CPP had risen to lead the struggle to liberate and save the people and motherland from the massacre of the Pol Pot regime and had adopted principles to bring gradual rehabilitation and progress to the nation. Chairman Chea Sim went on to say that the CPP had liberalized freedom of commerce and religious worship and the people's participation in national defense and reconstruction.

Dealing with the process of finding peace for the motherland, Mr. Chea Sim stressed that the CPP and State of Cambodia Government have most energetically and strictly respected the implementation of the Cambodian peace agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991, and have created favorable conditions for and cooperated with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia in achieving national reconciliation and reconstruction. However, the opposition factions, particularly the Khmer Rouge, have repeatedly violated the agreement, trying to block up the peace process in all forms.

Concerning the civil duty, Chairman Chea Sim added that during the 1993 general elections every citizen will have the right to choose his own deputy to represent him in the National Assembly and to vote for the head of state without any coercion from any party. He went on to stress that the CPP has already announced its support for His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk's candidacy for head of state, and would like to appeal to everybody to vote for the prince as head of state in the upcoming elections.

Khieu Samphan Protests to UN Chief on Aid Appeal

BK1005043092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 9 May 92

[Text] On 7 May His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan, member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], sent a message to His Excellency [H.E.] Butrus Butrus Ghali, UN secretary general, concerning a draft document of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] appealing to the international community for aid to support the Phnom Penh regime in every field, down to budget and salary assistance, which is against the spirit and essence of the Paris agreement.

The PDK is opposed to providing aid to the Phnom Penh side, which is against the Paris agreement. But in preparing the joint communique of the SNC on 7 May, the UNTAC staff improperly wrote that the entire meeting agreed with this provision of aid. H.E. Khieu Samphan's message

informed the secretary general that such methods are not correct. The message says in essence:

Today I would regrettably like to inform Your Excellency that despite opposition by our PDK to the draft document on this aid program, UNTAC staff still prepared the SNC communique saying we also agreed to it. I noted that such a procedure was carried out once before on 19 April during your visit to Phnom Penh. Such a procedure is very regrettable because it is against the spirit and essence of the Paris agreement.

Complains of Being Ignored

BK0905062292 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0407 GMT 9 May 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 9—The Khmer Rouge objected Friday to UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali's appeal for emergency aid for Cambodia, saying the funds would aid the Phnom Penh Government, reports AFP.

Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan protested that his objections to the appeal had been virtually ignored in the official account of Thursday's Supreme National Council (SNC) meeting prepared by United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) personnel.

Butrus Ghali appealed on April 19 for 593 million dollars for food, health services, shelter, education, training, and restoration of basic infrastructure in Cambodia.

Following a quick objection from the Khmer Rouge, UNTAC said it would screen each donation to be sure it was not going to any single faction, diplomatic sources said.

Khieu Samphan renewed the objection during Thursday's SNC meeting but was politely overruled by UNTAC Deputy Chief Behrooz Sadry after interventions from the French, Japanese, and Russian ambassadors, the sources said.

"We can't hold up the reconstruction of the country because of foot-dragging by a single group," said one diplomat, who nonetheless acknowledged that most of the money would be spent in areas controlled by Phnom Penh.

Khieu Samphan said in his letter that the funds should be administered by the SNC, which groups the Phnom Penh Government, its most powerful rival the Khmer Rouge, and two smaller resistance factions.

Under the October Paris peace treaty, the SNC is supposed to represent Cambodian sovereignty and advise UNTAC until a new government is chosen through free elections early next year.

The implicit criticism of UNTAC in the letter was worrying, a diplomat said, beause the Khmer Rouge might use it as an excuse for not cooperating with the implementation of the peace plan.

Khmer Rouge Give Conditions for End to War

BK1305043292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 12 May 92

[Station "article:" "If the Supreme National Council and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia Do Not Have any Roles, Rights, or Authority, and If the Vietnamese Aggressors and the Phnom Penh Side Continue To Assume State Authority in Controlling Cambodia, War Will Continue To Rage Endlessly in the Country and the People Will by no Means Remain Idle"]

[Text] Since the Paris accord was signed, thus far the Vietnamese aggressors and the regime they installed in Phnom Penh have continued to assume Cambodia's state authority, both military and civilian. The Vietnamese invaders and the Phnom Penh side are not recognizing the SNC's role as the unique legitimate organ and source of authority in Cambodia during the transition as stipulated in the Paris accord. This is obviously in direct contradiction to the Paris accord.

Why are the Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh grasping for power?

We have clearly seen that the Vietnamese aggressors and the regime they installed in Phnom Penh have numerous reasons to persistently exercise power. However, the main reason is for the Vietnamese aggressors to further invade and occupy Cambodia through the puppet regime they propped up. To all appearances, since the existence of the Paris accord the Vietnamese aggressors have, through the intermediary of their puppet regime in Phnom Penh, continued to hide all categories of troops in Cambodia. In recent months the Vietnamese aggressors have continued to ship armaments and ammunition to further attack the resistance forces and murder the Cambodian people, as typically illustrated by the events in Kompong Thom Province and so on. The Vietnamese can do so, on the one hand, through their puppets, while their activities along Cambodia's eastern border, on the other hand, are not yet checked. They can come in and out of Cambodia at will.

In this situation, the Cambodian people and resistance forces are compelled to resort to counterattacks to defend their localities and prevent the Vietnamese from plundering and massacring the people. The Cambodian people and national resistance forces can in no way remain idle, allowing themselves to be killed by the Vietnamese invaders. That being the case, the war will undoubtedly continue to flare up. All in all, we have proposed that:

1. The SNC have the rights and authority to discuss with UNTAC the control and administration of state affairs from top to bottom in compliance with the Paris accord—everything should be carried out through the intermediary of the SNC;

2. Deployment of UN forces and the four Cambodian parties in eastern Cambodia should be completed in May 1992 in order to stop the flow of the Vietnamese aggressors' arms and ammunition to Cambodia; and

3. The four Cambodian parties' armed forces finally be demobilized by 70 percent and then 100 percent.

At the moment, the pressing issue for the Cambodian nation and people and the world is whether the SNC and UNTAC can assume their veritable roles and authority in Cambodia according to the Paris accord, or whether the state authorities shored up by the Vietnamese will be allowed to further stir up trouble and control state affairs. The Cambodian people and the world's esteem and confidence in the UNTAC and the SNC are directly tied to this issue.

EC To Give Aid for Refugee Resettlement

BK1305054092 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0357 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 13—The European Commission is to complement the United Nations peace programme in Cambodia with urgent food aid and millions of dollars for the resettlement of refugees, a spokesman was quoted by AFP as saying Tuesday [12 May].

Some eight million ECUs (10 million dollars) is going into the resettlement of about 100,000 refugees from camps on the Thai border into the border regions of Battambang and Pursat.

The money will be devoted to improving management of water supplies, agricultural production, health, education and technical support.

The EC is also providing 11,500 tonnes of cereals, worth about 1.2 million ECUs (1.5 million dollars), for about 100,000 Cambodians in the northeast hit by floods.

The Red Cross and Red Crescent health organisations will oversee its distribution.

UN Official Informs Thailand of Checkpoints

BK1305054292 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0405 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 13—The military commander of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) informed Thai officials Tuesday [12 May] of where it plans to set up checkpoints on the Thai-Cambodian border, a UN official was quoted by AFP [Agence France-Press] as saying.

Australian General John Sanderson met with Thai military officers Tuesday morning to thank them for Thailand's part in the Cambodian peace-keeping operation.

A unit of Thai sappers is helping to find and remove the thousands of mines littering the countryside after nearly 20 years of warfare.

Sanderson, who was also to meet with Foreign Ministry officials, could not be reached [for] comment immediately.

But the main point of his visit was "to inform the Thais of where the UN has decided to set up the checkpoints. The issue is not negotiable," said a UN official speaking on condition of anonymity.

Thai officials had brushed off a UN official who visited Bangkok last month to brief them about the checkpoints, telling him to come back in mid-May.

That led some Phnom Penh diplomats to accuse Thailand of stalling because of its lucrative timber and gemstones concessions with the various Cambodian factions.

"The Thais don't want UNTAC to see the huge amounts of timber and gemstones that they're taking out of Cambodia," one diplomat told AFP recently in Phnom Penh.

The Cambodian peace accord calls for checkpoints on its border with Thailand, Laos and Vietnam to verify that all foreign troops have left Cambodia and that no weapons or other aid is flowing to the rival factions.

At least seven checkpoints are to be set up on the border with Thailand, two on the border with Laos, and nine on the border with Vietnam. All must be in place before disarmament of the Cambodian factions, which is scheduled to begin on June 13.

Sanderson was also to meet in Bangkok Wednesday with UNTAC Chief Yasushi Akashi, who will be on transit in the Thai captital before returning to Phnom Penh from Tokyo.

Akashi, who has been visiting his homeland since Sunday [10 May], has asked Japan to send military forces to help maintain peace in Cambodia.

Soldiers on Leave Urged To Report to Units

BK1205154492 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 12 may 92

[Communique of the defense minister of the State of Cambodia; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The Ministry of National Defense of the State of Cambodia calls on officers and troops who have been on leave or convalescing at home to immediately report back to their respective units no later than 15 May 1992, bringing with them their personal effects such as weapons and ammunition, if any, in order to register in the unit roll calls for the upcoming inspection by the UN Transitional Authority. After this deadline, the General Staff deems itself unbound by all eventualities that may happen in the future.

Son Sann Quoted on Presence of Vietnamese Troops

BK1205135892 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 May 92

[Text] The Voice of Free Asia radio on 7 May reported that at the meeting with Indonesian Prime Minister [title as heard] Suharto, His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, member of the Supreme National Council and chairman of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, said that there are currently a lot of disguised Vietnamese troops in Cambodia. The areas in which the Vietnamese aggressors have hidden their troops the most are in the northeastern part of Cambodia, mainly in Ratanakiri, Mondolkiri Province, and Stung Treng Provinces.

He further said that the Vietnamese aggressors have ordered many of their troops to hide among the Cambodian people by disguising themselves as the Cambodian people. He also said that apart from this, the Vietnamese aggressors have systematically dispatched their forces, including soldiers and settlers, to Cambodia.

This statement by H.E. Son Sann agrees with other resistance forces, the majority of the country, and the world over, which hold that the Vietnamese aggressors have not withdrawn from Cambodia. People say that according to satellites, which closely followed the deceitful farce of troop pullout from Cambodia of the Vietnamese aggressors in September 1989, truck convoys, armoured vehicles, and tanks of the Vietnamese aggressors, after leaving Cambodia, turned into Vietnam's 5th Military Region adjoining Cambodia's northeast, split up, and returned to Cambodia in Ratanakiri, Mondolkiri, and Kratie Provinces.

The Party of Democratic Kampuchea's sources clearly hold that there are currently 23,700 Vietnamese aggressor troops in Cambodia who are involved in directing the fighting and carrying out intelligence work. Apart from this, there are over a million Vietnamese settlers setting up residences over water and on land everywhere in Cambodia, particularly in the eastern part of the country.

KR Violations in Kampot 17, 20, 23 Apr Reported

BK1305094192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Although the implementation of the Cambodian peace agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991 has been proceeding smoothly, the cease-fire violations of the Cambodian opposition factions, especially the polpotist Khmer Rouge in Kampot Province, still mars the situation in Cambodia.

According to a report of the Military Command of Kampot Province, at 0730 on 17 April more than 30 polpotist Khmer Rouge soldiers fired at a Kampot provincial truck returning from ferrying the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] forces to their station at the Vietnamese border in Prek Kroeh Commune, Kompong Trach District. As a result, a woman was killed, and three provincial cadres and male motorcyclist riding ahead of the truck, were seriously injured.

Lieutenant Colonel Leap Mai further reported that when the mother of the slain woman was bringing the body of her dead daughter back to her village in an ambulance of the Kampot provincial hospital, the polpotists again intercepted and fired at the ambulance, wounding the bereft mother in the thigh. On the same day, the enemy robbed a traveler of his motorcycle on the road in Phnum Leav Ti Muoy Commune, Kompong Trach District.

On the night of 20 April, our forces sighted 20 to 30 Khmer Rouge soldiers transporting war materiel and arms from an area north of National Route 3 to the Phnum Vo region. On 23 April in Prek Thnaot Commune, Prek Smach region, enemy forces ambushed a bus, took away all its cargo and forced the bus into the woods and flattened all its tires.

According to Provincial Military Command estimates, some 40 to 50 Khmer Rouge soldiers in the Phnum Vo Region are conducting daily activities. Although the State of Cambodia faction has observed great restraint in respecting the Paris agreement, the polpotists continue to nurture their warmongering ambitions and to wreak havoc on the Cambodian people. Moreover, they have even violated and provoked the UN mission teams causing dire difficulties and complications to UNTAC's search for genuine peace in Cambodia. The provincial party committee and people's committee and the people throughout the province deeply regret such provocative activities and demand that the polpotist Khmer Rouge faction and Ta Mok most strictly respect the agreement, immediately cease their armed attacks, and correctly abide by the decisions unanimously taken by the Mixed Military Working Group.

In total, during the first quarter of 1992 alone there have been 19 violations by the Khmer Rouge faction, who has caused five deaths.

Indonesia

Son Sann Asks Aid To Ensure Cambodian Accords

BK0805075592 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 8 May 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC], said in Jakarta on 7 May that he had asked Indonesia to help end the presence of over 1 million of Vietnamese now illegally living in Cambodia.

He said the presence risks distorting the future elections, and he asked Indonesia, the cochairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and guarantor of the Paris peace accord, to make sure every term of the accord is respected.

H.E. Son Sann said he made the request on Wednesday [6 May] at a meeting with Indonesian President Suharto. Indonesia's Foreign Minister Ali Alatas was also present.

H.E. Son Sann pointed out that Vietnamese civilians come to Cambodia every day and the Cambodian-Vietnamese border is open due to a treaty signed between Vietnam and the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen regime. He added that he rejected the treaty as illegal like everything of the Phnom Penh regime born of the Vietnamese invasion in 1979.

Launching of Palapa B-4 Satellite Delayed

BK1005085292 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0447 GMT 10 May 92

[Text] Cocoa Beach, Florida, May 10 (OANA/ANTARA)—The launching of Indonesia's Palapa B-4 communication satellite had to be cancelled for the third time on Saturday due to a trouble found in its interior bridge crane.

"The trouble is beyond our fancy, but there is no problem in the condition of the satellite and the launching rocket," the construction director of Telcom Co. Ltd., A. Nasution, acting as the first deputy director for Palapa B-4 mission, told ANTARA in Florida on Saturday.

As a result, the launching of the satellite has to be postponed from May 11 to May 13, he said.

The launching was previously scheduled for May 7, but it was postponed to May 9 and again to May 11.

Palapa B-4 could be controlled from the Cibinong-based main control station 13 hours after the launching and while the operation will start one month after the launching.

Governor Warns Officials of Election Boycott

LD1105142992 Lisbon RDP Internacional in Portuguese 1000 GMT 11 May 92

[Text] KYODO cites a Jakarta newspaper as reporting that the Timorese governor said the majority of Timorese will abstain from voting at the forthcoming Indonesian elections as a gesture of anger over last year's massacre. KYODO reports that THE JAKARTA POST notes that Governor Mario Carrascalao said the massacre has left deep scars in the hearts of the Timorese people. Some people still feel very strong about what happened and have bad feelings toward the Indonesian Government. THE JAKARTA POST says that Mario Carrascalao made the above statement when speaking in Dili to representatives of three Indonesian political parties.

Curbs Imposed on Election Campaign

BK1205102392 Hong Kong AFP in English 0238 GMT 12 May 92

[By Pascal Mallet]

[Text] Jakarta, May 12 (AFP)—The election campaign currently under way in Indonesia is subject to far stricter regulations governing freedom of expression and right of assembly than in the past, observers here say.

At least five new measures have been introduced to control the method and content of campaigning, which began Sunday, for the June 9 polls.

Motorcades are banned, including those transporting activists to electoral rallies, while parties are also prohibited from personalising their campaign by displaying portraits or posters that refer, however obliquely, to any individual.

Explaining the new regulations, interior minister and president of the electoral committee General Rudini said on television Saturday, "the function of the electoral campaign is the diffusion of party policies and not the development of a personality cult."

The nationalist-Christian Democratic Party of Indonesia (PDI)—one of Indonesia's two legal opposition parties along with the Moslem-oriented United Development Party (PPP)—will be worst hit by the new rules, according to observers here.

The PDI counts for much of its support on admirers of Indonesia's founding father Sukarno, and two children and one son-in-law of the former president are among its candidates in the June polls.

The strict campaign rules also preclude the use of symbols, apart from those of national significance adopted by the three official parties. Under the regulation, the ruling Golkar party's banyan tree which represents nationalism, the PPP's five-pointed star representing belief in a single God, and the PDI's bull's head of humanitarianism cannot be used in campaigns.

In a move that the authorities say is aimed at avoiding any defamatory elements entering the campaign, parties may not use banners, posters, handouts, stickers, or signboards that have not been officially sanctioned.

Incorporating verses from the Koran, or any other religious work, in speeches is also forbidden.

As well as the new measures, some old regulations have been firmed up and reimposed.

Prior police authorisation is required for any meeting of more than five persons, including those in private houses. This regulation is in principle permanent, but is seldom enforced except against dissidents or during elections.

Following police refusal to authorise innocuous meetings and seminars, the association representing major hotels in Jakarta has written a letter asking for an explanation, the manager of one hotel told AFP.

All restrictions that applied to the four previous elections since President Suharto came to power in 1967 also remain in force.

Authorisation must be requested and granted for any demonstration, and the contents of any speech to be broadcast on radio or television must first be vetted by Rudini's committee.

Campaigning is not allowed in villages, with only limited meetings being authorised in major sub-district centres.

Foreign press with a permanent correspondent in Jakarta were obliged to give a precise coverage plan three days before the launch of the campaign. Government accreditation for meetings held by the three parties throughout the country is to be given on a one-off basis each time.

Dissidents Step Up Criticism of Suharto

BK1305062492 Hong Kong AFP in English 0316 GMT 13 May 92

[By Pascal Mallet]

[Text] Jakarta, May 13 (AFP)—Indonesian dissidents are taking advantage of the coming general election to launch a two-pronged attack on the constitutional legitimacy of President Suharto's regime and nepotism within the first family.

Angered by what they see as "deviations" from the 1945 Constitution, dissidents from the radical Forum for the Purity of Popular Sovereignty (FPKR) have called on voters to boycott the June 9 polls and demanded the holding of "free, just, and honest elections."

In a declaration submitted on May 7 to one of the non-elected military members of the House of Representatives, the dissidents also called for an end to what they described as "the simulated state of emergency" in force in Indonesia since 1967.

The declaration, a copy of which was made available to AFP, also questioned the constitutional validity of some of the strict electoral regulations governing next month's polls, and called for their annulment.

The signatories to the declaration were three of Indonesia's most celebrated dissidents. They included retired general Hartono Rekso Dharsono, a war of independence hero and former secretary general of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, who was imprisoned on sedition charges from 1986 to 1990.

In the presence of journalists, another signatory, Moslem intellectual Deliar Noer, openly denounced the Suharto family for "abuse of power" and "nepotism"—a taboo subject in Indonesia.

On May 4, other well-known dissidents met with parliamentary vice-president Naro to announce the April 27 creation of a committee for the defence of the political rights of the Indonesian people, aimed at providing independent supervision of the coming elections.

Haji Princen, another war hero who was also imprisoned for human rights campaigning, told AFP: "We don't recognise the validity of the elections, but we still want to make sure there is no cheating."

The two legal opposition parties, the Moslem-oriented United Development Party (PPP) and the nationalist-Christian Democratic Party of Indonesia (PDI), have no chance of overturning the large majority held by the ruling Golkar Party, the dissidents say.

The restrictions imposed on campaigning in the countryside, where some 75 percent of Indonesia's 180 million people live, will work much to Golkar's advantage, analysts here say.

As most mayors are appointed by the government and, like most officials, are members of Golkar, the party exerts an exclusive influence over rural communities.

Meanwhile, those Golkar deputies judged too critical of the authorities, such as Marzuki Darusman, were left off the list of candidates for the June elections.

East Timor Demonstrator Sentenced to Six Months

BK1205153092 Jakarta ANTARA in Indonesian 0808 GMT 12 May 92

[Excerpt] Jakarta, 12/5 (ANTARA) - The Central Jakarta District Court sentenced East Timorese demonstrator Dominggus Bareto (29) to six months minus the time he spent in police custody during a trial session on Tuesday.

"The defendant was found guilty of creating enmity toward and publicly insulting the Government of the Republic of Indonesia during a demonstration in front of the UN office in Jakarta on 19 November 1991," said R.P.A. Mangkudiningrat S.H. [Master of Law], chairman of the Council of Judges, in his verdict.

Having been in custody since 20 November 1991, Dominggus Bareto will serve only an eight-day prison term in accordance with the verdict.

According to the Council of Judges, Dominggus Bareto was also found guilty of signing a declaration written in Portuguese, the contents of which criticized and insulted the Indonesian Government.

However, the Council of Judges added that the most extenuating factor was the defendant's attitude toward the incorporation of East Timor into the Republic of Indonesia.

"The defendant is not opposed to the incorporation of East Timor into Indonesia. He simply protested the 12 November 1991 incident," he said before Prosecutor Habel Lesbassa S.H. [passage omitted]

Philippines

Santiago Maintains Lead in Poll Count

HK1205130892 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1208 GMT 12 May 92

[By May Binauhan from the News Center]

[Text] Here is our news recap as of 2000 today.

There is no truth to an earlier report that seven ballot boxes were taken away by some groups or individuals. The authorities concerned have clarified that the seven ballot boxes containing election paraphernalia were hidden by designated Commission on Elections [Comelec] officials in the area to save them from any fraud that might occur. According to the Comelec officials concerned, they brought the ballot boxes to the municipal hall after encountering problems on the election returns last night. However, people suspecting fraud barred the teachers carrying the ballot boxes. The teachers have challenged those who believe fraud was committed to file charges in court. It is expected that the Comelec will act on this problem in Navotas, particularly at the Bagumbayan Elementary School.

At the Commission on Elections, Comelec Chairman Christian Monsod did not respond to the accusation made by the Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance [RAM] that the Media Citizens Quick Count [MCQC] is set to manipulate the election result to favor administration candidate Fidel Ramos. According to Monsod, he has no sufficient evidence against the RAM to respond to their accusation. [sentence as heard]

Camp Crame has received the complaint by the people of Tanauan, Batangas, regarding missing names of voters. Philippine National Police chief General Gerardo Flores clarified that it is standard operating procedure for policemen to provide protection for the people of the town and that Tanauan residents should not be worried about their peace and order situation.

In our partial unofficial report by the Radio Supercount '92, Santiago maintains the lead with 326,571 votes. She is followed by Ramos with 324,309; Cojuangco, 231,055; Salonga, 188,788; Marcos, 137,908; Mitra, 136,669; and Laurel with 29,025 votes.

In the vice presidential race, Estrada still leads with 344,092 votes followed by Fernan, 218,721; Osmena, 208,557; Magsaysay, Jun 196,806 votes; Pimentel, 171,655; Magsaysay, Vic 41,470 votes; and Kalaw, 12,149 votes.

Awaits Victory Proclamation

HK1305090892 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0730 GMT 13 May 92

[By Bebot Dakita; italicized passage in English]

[Text] Presidential candidate Miriam Defensor Santiago today stressed that the flow of tabulation clearly indicates her as the winning presidential candidate. Santiago, however, called on voters to remain vigilant to protect the ballots. She expressed thanks and admiration for the youth, professionals and faithful Christians, who she said were responsible for her victory. Santiago commended the public school teachers and the military, who she considered as the heroes behind the triumph of democracy.

She noted advice by Winston Churchill which states: *In victory, there should be magnanimity.* This, Santiago said, has been her guide as she awaits her proclamation as the new and youngest Philippine president. She is 46 years old. She warned that the Filipino nation should remain alert and vigilant due to reports that some losing candidates may still commit fraud. However, Santiago believes that her supporters will not allow evil to prevail because the true will of the people has been delivered.

Ramos Reiterates Respect for 'Untampered' Result

HK1305070692 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 13 May 92 p 7

[Text] Presidential candidate Fidel V. Ramos reiterated yesterday his "undivided commitment to the covenant I had previously signed with my six rivals for the presidency, that I will accept the untampered verdict of the people as reflected in the official tally of the Commission on Elections." The former defense secretary added: "I also ask my six rivals to do the same."

"In the meantime," he continued, "I urge our people to remain vigilant and, with untiring efforts, to guard and preserve the integrity of this election."

He said he was encouraged by the early unofficial results of the elections on Monday which, he stressed, were generally clean, honest, fraud-free and orderly except for some minor, isolated incidents. Saying that "I am confident of my eventual victory," Ramos nonetheless stated that "it is too early to conclude that a voting trend is already firming up on the sole basis of unofficial, tabulated results in Metro Manila and a few nearby provinces."

At the moment, the results are hardly conclusive, gathered randomly as they are by media organizations whose main purpose is to allay public anxiety and satisfy its hunger for the initial count to come from the voting, he said.

"I have cautioned my supporters not to misinterpret the early count as a national trend and to await the final results from the provinces, the bulk of which will ultimately determine the outcome of this electoral contest," he said.

The Lakas [Strength-Epifanio Delos Santos Avenue] Edsa-NUCD [National Union of Christian Democrats] presidential candidate also took steps yesterday to reduce post-election tension and ensure a smooth and peaceful transition to the next administration by assuring the nation that he would respect the results of

the May 11 elections and support whoever becomes the next president of the country.

The covenant referred to by Ramos was drawn up by the Comelec [Commission on Elections] and enjoined the candidates to, among others, condemn any attempt to disrupt or pre-empt the elections or prevent the proclamation of the winners and help guarantee that Congress will convene as scheduled on May 25, 1992 to allow it to carry out its constitutional duty to canvass the results and proclaim the winners of the May 11 elections.

More importantly, the covenant asked the candidates to accept the result of the elections graciously and cooperate with whoever wins in order to unify the country after the elections.

The Lakas standard bearer said he is taking this step to set the minds of the people at ease and ensure that the country achieves a peaceful transition of power after undergoing what observers believe is its most crucial post-war elections.

Ramos noted in a press conference yesterday that the national elections have now entered "the most critical part of the democratic process" which, he said, "must be protected from manipulation."

He raised the alarm over attempts by certain quarters to disrupt or distort the electoral process so as to gain political power, citing what happened in Mandaluyong, where Lakas coalition candidate Jose Mari Gonzales discovered ballot boxes already stuffed with used ballot stubs.

Ramos likewise lauded the different sectors of the country for their efforts in making last Monday's polls relatively peaceful and orderly.

"I hope that our people, including all the candidates who took part in this important political exercise, will exert every effort to make sure that the constitutional processes that started with the voting yesterday will be respected and, thus, proven to be workable in the hands of the Philippine electorate," Ramos said.

His party spokesman, Rafael Alunan III, also reiterated his previous observation that Ramos would succeed Mrs. Aquino as the next president of the country.

Citing the early results of the Reuter news agency exit poll, Social Weather Stations (SWS) and Krystal Research Associates surveys, Alunan said "all indications point to Secretary Ramos overtaking Mrs. Santiago when the official tally starts."

Miriam Defensor-Santiago holds a slight edge over Ramos based on the unofficial, partial returns tabulated by the various media organizations, mostly coming from Metro Manila.

Alunan listed down several key areas where Ramos, President Aquino's personal choice, holds a wide margin over Santiago and a convincing edge over the third-running Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. of the Nationalist People's Coalition.

The official tally undertaken by the Media Citizens Quick Count (MCQC) started midnight of Tuesday.

Once the MCQC tabulation begins, all previous tallies are deemed invalid.

"The real counting starts once the MCQC gets going. The Lakas-NUCD camp is confident the tally board will show Secretary Ramos leading Mrs. Santiago in the next few days," a relaxed Alunan said.

The exit poll, undertaken by one of the most prestigious international news organizations in the world, showed Ramos leading Santiago, 23.5% to 21.7%.

Alunan said the Reuter poll is "compatible" with what the SWS and Krystal surveys had shown.

"The Reuter exit poll merely complements what we already know, and that is Fidel V. Ramos will win the election handily," Alunan said.

Among the areas mentioned by Alunan where Ramos struck heavily were the cities of Cebu, Dumaguete, Dagupan, Cotabato, Angeles and Cavite and the provinces of Bataan, Pangasinan, Pampanga and Tarlac.

Ramos grabbed the early lead in regions 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12 and was locked in a tight battle with Santiago in the National Capital Region where political analysts predicted a dead heat for first place between the two co-leaders.

"Let's wait for the MCQC tally before making conclusions. It's the official tabulation after all," Alunan said.

In vote-rich Cebu, the country's second premier city after Manila, Alunan noted that as of 10.00 a.m. yesterday, "Ramos is poised for a rousing triumph."

Assails Misrepresentation

HK1305092292 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Administration candidate Fidel V. Ramos criticized the way in which votes are being counted only in areas where Miriam Defensor-Santiago has a lead over him. According to Ramos, the board of canvassers are first counting the votes coming from the far-flung areas, which could be considered the strongholds of Santiago's candidacy, rather than counting the votes coming from provinces nearer to Metro Manila.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] Of the regional sources that they are reporting, only 50 percent of that comes from the national capital region [NCR]. Although the NCR is vote rich, it is only representative of 15 percent of the total electorate in the country. [end recording]

Marcos Party To File Fraud Complaint

HK1305072192 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] The New Society Movement [KBL] is going to file a complaint with the Commission on Elections [Comelec] regarding rampant cheating during last Monday's elections. Lito Gorospe made this statement in an interview by Jim Belosano of Philippine Broadcasting Service. Here is Jim:

[Begin Belosano recording] According to Gorospe, Mrs. Marcos' supporters were not able to vote in various parts of Metro Manila, like the towns of Tayatas and Tatalon in Quezon City, because of the lack of election paraphernalia.

He also said that there was rampant cheating in Tondo, Manila, which resulted in the protest launched by the supporters of KBL mayoral candidate Rey Fajardo in front of the Comelec office yesterday. Gorospe also complained that votes from areas considered the stronghold of Mrs. Marcos' candidacy were not being counted. He also complained about the suspension of elections in Mindanao, particularly in the province of Lanao del Sur, where it was expected that Mrs. Marcos would get the biggest number of votes.

More Reportage on Election Problems, Violence

Latest Tally Says 52 Dead

HK1305025692 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] A total of 52 persons have been killed, 130 have been seriously injured, and 69 violent election-related incidents have been reported. According to the Philippine National Police's election-monitoring and action center, 49 incidents have been confirmed as being connected with the polls, while 20 incidents involved the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army. Most of those killed were candidates, their relatives, and supporters; the number of those killed is expected to rise.

Metro Manila Count Suspended

HK1205134892 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 1258 GMT 12 May 92

[Interview with station commander Major Angkanan by Romy Llasa on the suspension of ballot counting in Navotas, Metro Manila; place not given—live; italicized passages in English]

[Text] [Llasa] The ballot counting in Navotas has been suspended. Let us get some information from Major Augusto Angkanan. Can you tell us who ordered the suspension and why?

[Angkanan] The counting could not be allowed to proceed because the crowd was getting unruly and many people could get hurt. We are now awaiting instructions from the Commission on Elections [Comelec] headquarters.

[Llasa] Was there really any instruction to suspend this? What actually happened here?

[Angkanan] Well, what happened was this. In the North Bay Boulevard Elementary School, the counting was suspended because when the Board of Election Inspectors looked at the tally sheet, they found that the third page of the sheet was defective. Attorney Ternes said that was nothing. So, *it was not really possible to continue with the counting because the tally sheet which came from Manila was defective.* The Board of Election Inspectors contacted Attorney Ternes, head of the Comelec Special Action Team sent here to oversee the conduct of election, who in turn contacted the Manila office on what had to be done. *He was given the instruction, according to him, to secure the paraphernalia,* to bring these to the municipal hall and place them under the custody of the municipal treasurer. This morning, *I think he was again given an instruction by Comelec Manila how to go about it.* He then met with the various party representatives and they agreed that the ballot boxes be moved back to the original precincts for counting in the presence of the Board of Election inspectors, Comelec personnel, watchers, and residents of the areas affected. This is why the ballot boxes were loaded in the van and escorted by the teachers, Comelec officials, and the Philippine National Police to bring them back to the precincts. But when the vehicle started to move, the people advanced, accusing the group of taking the ballot boxes away to change them. But that is not true.

Explosions Suspend Abra Canvassing

HK1305065092 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Two blasts rocked Abra last Monday [11 May] and Tuesday [12 May]. These resulted in the temporary suspension of canvassing in the province.

Major Richie Logronio, operations chief of the Cordillera Regional Command, said that although there were no injuries during the blast, it resulted in panic.

The first explosion occurred near Pulot Elementary School last Monday night. This was followed by an explosion near the Lagayan Municipal Hall yesterday morning. It is believed that the New People's Army is responsible for these incidents.

Officials Arrested With Ballot Box

HK1305070192 Quezon City DWDD Armed Forces Radio in Tagalog 0400 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Elements of the Philippine National Police's Metropolitan Traffic Enforcement Unit arrested two Commission on Elections [Comelec] Board of Election inspectors who were carting away a ballot box yesterday. Joel Gonzales of Fairview, Quezon City and Ronaldo Toca of West Rembo, Fort Bonifacio, Makati, Metro Manila, were arrested. The suspects said they had to carry the box to a locksmith for a duplicate key because they lost the original key to the box. A set of CE forms,

a brown envelope, and the ballot box were confiscated. The suspects were brought to the office of Attorney Jose Balbuena at the Comelec law department for investigation.

Marines Sent To Guard Media Quick Count Center

HK1305050792 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Twenty-five men from the Philippine Marines have been dispatched by the Commission on Elections [Comelec] to the Media Citizens' Quick Count [MCQC] at La Salle Greenhills. The Comelec said it had received an intelligence report stating that the Reform the Armed Forces Movement plans to bomb the MCQC because it is reportedly under the influence of the Americans.

The Comelec also sent additional troops to San Pedro, Laguna, to guard the ballots after reports were received yesterday about trouble in the area. The election registrar reportedly ordered the municipal canvassing to be done in Santa Cruz, Laguna, even though the Comelec directed that it be done in San Pedro.

American Influence Denied

HK1305024992 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] The Media Citizens Quick Count [MCQC] has denied that its operations are controlled by the Americans. According to Phil Alfonso, MCQC governing council member, the group is being financed by Filipino businessmen as well as by donations from other sectors. He emphasized that the MCQC's operations, including the tabulation center in San Juan, are open to scrutiny.

Meanwhile, journalists have criticized the MCQC in La Salle Greenhills for the slow processing of election returns. MCQC Executive Director Eddie Luque said they are still collecting all the data from provincial and municipal boards of canvassers, and they will collate the total number of votes before releasing the results to the media.

MCQC Spokeswoman Carolina Hernandez said their agency aims to release the results as rapidly as possible. However, she said they aim to release precise figures to avoid constantly revising them. They are seeking to tally their canvassing with the results released by the Commission on Elections.

Further Reportage on Bombings in Manila Area

Intelligence Chief Accuses Rebels

HK1205125692 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1211 GMT 12 May 92

[By Rodney Jaleco]

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] intelligence chief has identified a new group under the Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance [RAM] which is allegedly responsible for the series of bombings in Metro Manila since yesterday. Brigadier General Alfredo Filler, AFP deputy chief of staff for intelligence, or J-2, said that the bombings were perpetrated by the Baula Brigade headed by former Philippine Constabulary Lieutenant Colonel Billy Bibit and Army Captain Reynaldo Ordonez. Intelligence reports said the bombings are part of a new destabilization plan codenamed "Operation Olympic Day" which is set for launching sometime between 11 and 30 May. The report added that the group, particularly Bibit, is equipped with light anti-tank weapons stolen from a raid on Camp Crame's armory last November. It is reported that Bibit managed to store various explosive devices in preparation for the rebels' destabilization plot. According to the report, the rebels allegedly plan to carry out tune-up [as heard] matches before launching their "Operation Olympic Day."

Colonel Benjamin Enrile, AFP information officer, said that this plan only shows that the rebels want to twist the truth by accusing top military officials of planning to manipulate and change the results of the election. Filler said the report on the bombings did not originate from the military. However, he said the Armed Forces have acted to stop these bombings.

Disgruntled Candidates Blamed

HK1305030792 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] The police have warned against possible violent acts aimed at preventing winning candidates from taking office, after several Manila Electric Company [Meralco] and National Power Corporation [Napocor] electricity towers were dynamited. Philippine National Police [PNP] chief Superintendent Gerardo Flores says the bombings were carried out by supporters of several candidates who may lose the election. Meralco's electricity towers in Manila and in the surrounding provinces were wired to cut electricity, thus slowing down the canvassing of votes the night before. The suspects' plan was to disrupt electricity supplies at night to steal ballot boxes and prevent the proclamation of the winners.

Flores did not name the candidates who he says are responsible for the bombing incidents.

Meanwhile, an official at Camp Crame says that the bombing of Meralco and Napocor electricity towers and transmission lines are part of Oplan [Operation Plan] Hydra which was launched by a presidential candidate who engaged in terrorism and sabotage to abort the canvassing of votes, once it was learned from early returns that he was losing.

PNP Director General Cesar Nazareno declared that he would not hesitate to jail the brains behind these acts of sabotage. Four Meralco electricity towers in Sucat, Paranaque, Malabon, and Bulacan were bombed by still unknown suspects, resulting in power outtages lasting several hours.

Thailand

Diplomatic Relations Established With Estonia

BK1105091692 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 7 May 92

[Announcement on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Republic of Estonia]

[Text] Being desirous of promoting friendly relations as well as mutually beneficial ties between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Republic of Estonia, the government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the government of the Republic of Estonia have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the level of embassy as from the 27 April, 1992 and to exchange diplomatic representatives at ambassadorial level.

27 April, 1992
General Suchinda Khraprayun, prime minister of Thailand

Government Recognizes Croatia, Slovenia

BK0205093292 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 1 May 92

[Statement of the Royal Thai Government on the recognition of independence of the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Slovenia]

[Text] The Royal Thai Government has decided to recognize the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Slovenia as from 1 May, 1992 and looks forward to developing cordial and mutually beneficial relations with the two sovereign states.

Premier Suchinda Speaks on Rallies, Amendment

BK1205140392 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 12 May 92

[Speech by Prime Minister General Suchinda Khraprayun on 12 May —recorded]

[Text] Dear compatriots: There is now good news that a number of members of Parliament have submitted a motion for an amendment to the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand which is mainly aimed at making the Constitution genuinely benefit the people and at achieving long-term political stability in Thailand. The initiative by the members of Parliament is expected to be brought up for parliamentary consideration in a few days. Steps will be taken in accordance with provisions in the Constitution. In my capacity as government leader, I was gratified to learn of this initiative. I hope that the demonstrations held by the people—which have ended in peace after several consecutive days of rallying—have stopped completely so that the general public can resume their normal lives free from confusion and so that the domestic climate can return to normal as soon as possible. This will be advantageous for the economic, political, and social aspects of national stability.

Concerning the move taken by members of Parliament, in my capacity as executive leader, I will not interfere with the move, but will let it proceed in accordance with the stipulations and steps of the constitution and parliamentary tradition. As parliamentary steps are being taken to that effect, under the law of the country and in my present capacity as prime minister, my cabinet ministers and I would like to assure you that we will perform our administrative duties to the best of our capabilities based on stated policies delivered to Parliament, especially concerning immediate assistance for the people hit hard by drought. This has become a major problem, unprecedented in decades, threatening the people in the rural areas. The people upcountry are waiting for help from the government.

Dear compatriots: Personally, I have told you many times that I have no ambition for political posts. I have been appointed prime minister because of support from a number of members of Parliament constituting a majority in the House of Representatives, in accordance with the democratic system and the current provisions of the Constitution. The situation was motivated by political reasons and necessities, and contradicted the statements I made earlier about my determination not to become prime minister. I am happy to learn about the move taken by members of Parliament to amend the Constitution despite the fact that as a result, I will have to leave this post. I realize that this is the only method we can use to develop our democratic system, which follows the rule of law and is coming closer to perfection.

I would like to repeat to you that I have taken up the post of government leader because of the support of the majority of more than half of the total number of the members of the House of Representatives. If I must leave the premiership, I would like to leave through procedures based on the laws of the country and the Constitution, not because of extra-parliamentary pressure or movements which reject the rule of law and parliamentary regulations.

Dear compatriots: Throughout my years of service to the country, I have been trained and told to perform my duties with a sense of discipline, for the sake of peace and the happiness of the people. When I was Army commander, I kept telling others that soldiers, as a group, are a part of the people. But as soldiers, they will have to perform their duties as assigned by the Armed Forces, which holds that national stability should have priority. In this connection, there is no reason whatsoever for the Armed Forces to use force to suppress people provoked by some who wished to exploit the situation to create violence during the recent rallies.

I therefore would like to thank all government officials who have performed their duties in keeping law and order with tolerance and kindness toward the people who joined the rallies, and who tried to achieve mutual

understanding of and sympathy for all parties. I would also like to thank the people who participated in the rallies for their cooperation with the government officials who were performing their duties. This resulted in the demonstrations remaining peaceful. Please wait for the results of deliberation by the members of Parliament, who will perform their duties in the National Assembly.

I would also like to thank all sectors and organizations of the mass media, because most of them tried to present news to the public with a sense of responsibility, without trying to reports news in a provocative way, which might have led to violence and division in the country. Finally, I would like to thank the Thai people for having used their good judgment in balancing what is good and what is bad and for remaining peaceful instead of attempting to create disturbances for the public. This is proof that my compatriots do not want to see mob rule overstep the bounds of justice and dominate the rule of law. I truly admire your action and your genuine spirit of democracy. As for those who participated in the rallies or joined them afterwards out of misunderstanding and curiosity, this is normal. These people have later come to realize what is right and wrong and have finally returned to order. The government would like to thank them as well.

Dear compatriots: I would like to sincerely tell you that we are very fortunate to be born Thai and to live under the benevolent protection of his majesty the king. Whenever a crisis has occurred in the country due to obstinacy—to the point that the country was exposed to serious risks of damage, threatening the life and property of the people and peace in the country—the Thai people have always overcome it. This is due to the benevolent power of his majesty, which has helped to improve the situation, foster compromise, and finally settle the problem. It has always been like that. I therefore call upon the Thai people of all sectors to join together in expressing our gratitude to their majesties the king and queen and to pledge our allegiance to the monarchical institution throughout life. Good-bye.

Suchinda's Comments Cited

BK1305005592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 May 92 p A6

["Excerpts of interviews with Prime Minister Suchinda Khraprayun at Government House yesterday"]

[Text] [Question] Can you comment on the House speaker's statement that all the nine government and opposition parties have agreed to amend the Constitution?

[Suchinda] The House speaker had not consulted leaders of government parties. Even though Khun Sombun (leader of the Chat Thai Party) did attend the meeting (with House Speaker Athit Urairat), he made no commitment.

[Question] So what the House speaker did was unilateral?

[Suchinda] That's the impression I was given by leaders of the government parties. Narong Wongwan (leader of the Samakkhi Tham Party), Samak Suntharawet (leader of Pachakorn Thai), and Montri Phongphanit (leader of Social Action) did not attend the meeting with Athit nor did they send any representatives to join.

[Question] How was the issue addressed in the Cabinet meeting today?

[Suchinda] All the government party leaders told me not [to] be concerned. They will take care of the problem for me.

[Question] Shouldn't both the government and opposition parties make clear their joint stand on the issue?

[Suchinda] All government party leaders agreed that it (amending the Constitution) is a time-consuming process. It can't be done in just one week as demanded by some people.

[Question] Banhan Sinlapa-acha, secretary of the Chat Thai Party, said on Monday that House Speaker Athit came up with the compromise solution in order to defuse the situation.

[Suchinda] You must have misheard him. The Constitution is the supreme law of the country and it should be amended only to uphold democracy—not to solve any immediate problems.

[Question] Will the prime minister lead the attempts to amend the Constitution, especially on the point that the prime minister must be an MP?

[Suchinda] I have told you many times that I have no parliamentary status. I have even quit the Senate. I am the head of the Government, therefore, I should not say anything which might be construed as directives to the government parties.

[Question] Are there are any particular clauses in the Constitution which you think need amending?

[Suchinda] I have no comment. It is a matter to be handled by Parliament.

[Question] There will be another demonstration on May 17. How will you cope with it?

[Suchinda] I want tensions to be eased. But everything has to be done in accordance with democratic principles.

[Question] Has there been a demand for you to state your stand on the issue?

[Suchinda] I always make my stand clear.

[Question] Are you glad that the demonstrations have been suspended?

[Suchinda] I am glad that the country has returned to normal and I am sure there are no Thai people who want to see unrest.

[Question] Government parties have gone back on their word to save you.

[Suchinda] No one has gone back on his or her word. Nobody has made any commitment.

[Question] Didn't your government turn the state-owned television and some newspapers into propaganda tools?

[Suchinda] I don't think I want to answer any more of your questions. You have always harboured a bad attitutde toward me. I will not answer any more of your questions.

[Question] There is still oposition (to your premiership).

(Suchinda remains silent and turns away)

[Question] You don't want to take my questions because you'd rather hear flattery?

(No answer)

[Question] How do you plan to cope with the next demonstration on May 17?

[Suchinda] I cannot tell you but I want to appeal to the people not to do anything that is bad for the country.

[Question] There were reports that Village Scouts were being mobilized to show their support for the prime minister. Wouldn't that lead to a confrontation?

[Suchinda] Village Scouts are disciplined people and a well-respected pressure group. I don't think they will create any trouble. I can't stop people from demonstrating.

[Question] Some government parties want to retain a provisional clause to allow you to stay in power for some time.

[Suchinda] I hae never asked for favours from any of the government parties. I accepted the premiership because I have the support of the people.

[Question] You said you will listen to the majority?

[Suchinda] Don't you think the government parties have the majority? Do you understand what democracy means? I don't bow to mob rule because that is not democracy.

[Question] Wouldn't you want to retain the present status quo?

[Suchinda] I never said whether I agree with amending the Constitution. And I have never stopped people from airing their views on the issue. But why didn't they do it in Parliament instead of outside?

[Question] People must be confused. They can't even believe what the House speaker says?

[Suchinda] I don't want to comment on what the House speaker has said. But people must believe in the prime minister. I will go on television tonight to make a formal announcement.

[Question] Wouldn't the people feel cheated by the House speaker?

[Suchinda] I don't know. You better ask Khun Athit about it. No government party leaders attended the meeting with him.

[Question] The process to amend the Constitution could be prolonged.

[Suchinda] I am sorry. I am a non-partisan prime minister and I cannot force the political parties.

[Question] If there were hundreds of thousands on the streets again, what would you do?

[Suchinda] I want to appeal [to] the people not to do it. There is a door for them to enter. Why should they break in through the window?

[Question] Would you accept any decision by Parliament?

[Suchinda] Of course, I am for democracy and prepared to follow any resolution adopted by the Parliament.

[Question] How do you feel these days?

[Suchinda] I sleep soundly every night.

[Question] Will you allow the current stalemate to continue?

[Suchinda] The press was the one that incited people to join the demonstration.

[Question] How do you think it will end?

[Suchinda] Everything must come to an end. I don't know how this will end but it will end in a way that will be good for the country.

[Question] Did you monitor the protests?

[Suchinda] I did throughout. But I was not disturbed. I heard the demonstrators call me names but I was not concerned. It was a pity that it was not picked up by television. They were probably afraid it would offend me. I myself would have wanted the demonstration to be broadcast. I harbour no grudge against anyone.

[Question] What do you think of your image now?

[Suchinda] It's still good. A good person always remains a good person. Salt is always salt.

[Question] People said you made things worse with your aggressive response.

[Suchinda] I admit my mistakes. I was a soldier before and cannot stand things I think are wrong. I have come this far because I am always myself. I always stand up to what I think is right.

[Question] Do you still insist that force will not be used to break up future demonstrations of this nature?

[Suchinda] I cannot give any guarantees. If the demonstrations are peaceful, then there will be no problems. But if they become violent, force cannot be ruled out.

[Question] Can you give an assurance that there will not be another coup?

[Suchinda] As the head of the government, I will try my best to stop coups from taking place. It is my duty to keep the democratic system in place as best as I can.

Peacekeeping Leader on End of Rally

BK1205150592 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1325 GMT 12 May 92

[Announcement signed by Air Chief Marshal Kaset Rotchananin, director of the Internal Peacekeeping Command, on 12 May; place not given]

[Text] Whereas the leaders of opposition political parties invited the dear compatriots to join the rally in front of the National Assembly Building beginning 4 May, which later continued at the Sanam Luang grounds and in the Ratchadamdoen Nok area until 10 May, the rally has now ended. As the director of the Internal Peacekeeping Command, I was concerned and had been following the situation all along. At the same time, I had instructed all the relevant government officials to treat the demonstrators gently and politely by adhering to the principle of resolving problems peacefully for the sake of national peace and order. This instruction resulted in cooperation from all sides concerned. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all demonstrators for taking into consideration national peace and order, refraining from creating riots and chaotic situations, and for being able to control the situation of the rally, which was finally dispersed successfully. I would also like to thank all government officials for exercising patience and restraint and for using gentle and polite language and expressions, which helped prevent any untoward incidents.

At the same time, I would like to thank all dear compatriots for being concerned about the situation, for always reporting news and information to the Internal Peacekeeping Command, and for trusting the government and being cooperative by not joining the rally with the demonstrators. This is a good sign that all parties concerned had cooperated in improving the situation, which has ended peacefully.

The Internal Peacekeeping Command would like to reaffirm to the dear compatriots that it will cooperate with, protect, and support the government and promote the democratic system with the king as the head of state. It will resolutely protect and safeguard the stability of the nation, religion, and monarchy for the happiness and peace of the dear compatriots.

The Internal Peacekeeping Command hopes that such a rally, which has created an adverse image of Thailand in the eyes of foreign countries and has caused economic and investment stagnation during the period, will not happen again in the future. The public is hereby informed.

Papers Comment on Move to Amend Constitution

BK1205124792

[Editorial Report] Three Thai-language newspapers—THAI RAT, NAEO NA, and BAN MUANG—on 12 May carry editorials commenting on the the move to seek constitution amendments.

THAI RAT's page 3 editorial, "Government Parties Must Be Serious," says that "it is pleased that the government parties and the opposition have reached a compromise and have reached an agreement to amend the constitution on the basis of four points. The amendments are: The house speaker shall serve as president of the parliament, the senate's power shall be curtailed and limited to screening legislative drafts only, motions and interpellations can be submitted during the second parliamentary session, and the prime minister shall be an elected MP." Not only will the constitution amendment help ease the impasse due to protests against the assumption of premiership by a non-elected person, but it will also enable the amended constitution to meet the democratic principles and the people's needs.

After discussing the parliamentary procedures for the constitution amendment, the editorial says that in theory, the constitution amendment can easily be accomplished and will take about one month. But in practice, past experiences have show that this is not an easy matter. Past attempts to amend the constitutions only succeeded in amending insignificant points, such as those on election methods and whether to make the house speaker the parliament president.

Concluding, the editorial says that "in order to ensure that the constitution amendment will be successful as desired by all parties concerned, the prime minister should make clear his intentions on this issue, and the five government parties should seriously cooperate with the opposition. The government parties comprise the persons who have given away the people's trust to a non-elected person to become prime minister, which has drawn opposition and eventually led to the current political crisis."

NAEO NA's page 4 editorial, "The Constitution Amendment—The Timeframe," says that the remaining conflict after the dispersal of the anti-government rally is that some opposition party leaders want the constitution to be amended in accordance with their will and within a deadline. In particular, they want to secure a commitment from Prime Minister General Suchinda Khraprayun on his quitting the premiership. They says that they will organize another rally if the amendments do not meet their will. These demands will intimidate other Thais. Even an opposition leader could not give a commitment on a constitution amendment if he were the prime minister, the house speaker, or the parliament president. "The constitution amendment depends on the members of the parliament, including those from the opposition parties. If there is any conflict within the parliament, the constitution amendment will take more

time. Which group will be in charge of national administration or act as the caretaker government if the prime minister is required to leave the premiership before the constitution amendment is completed?"

BAN MUANG's page 5 editorial, "Solving the Issue Requiring an Elected MP to be the Prime Minister," says that if the constitution is amended smoothly in accordance with the desire of the politicians—to have an elected MP as prime minister—the selection of a new prime minister will have to start again. This will result in the leader of the party which has the most seats in the House of Representatives becoming prime minister and the formation of a new government. Under such conditions, there will be trouble similar to what happened in the past. MPs and opposition parties will engage in mudslinging toward the party leader who is supposed to asuume the premiership, to the extent that he may fail to take up the post.

Concluding, the editorial says that "when there is a requirement that the prime minister must be an elected MP, we should not impose limitations on whether the prime minister must be a party leader. It should stipulate that a suitable and capable person from the party with the most votes could also be selected to assume the premiership. Otherwise, a struggle for leadership, such as that which occurred in the past, will happen again."

Suchinda Denies Family Fled Country

BK1305090992 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 13 May 92 p 2

[Interview with Prime Minister General Suchinda Khraprayun by MATICHON Reporter; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Reporter] There was a report saying that during the seven days of the crisis the prime minister's family had left the country.

[Suchinda] My wife was in Khon Kaen Province presenting scholarships to school children. There were news reports on television every day. My two sons were both in Bangkok. I have never thought of leaving Thailand. I had been a soldier, and I made sacrifices all my life for the country. I have never thought of fleeing the country. When it comes to a fight for righteousness or for the country, I have no fear.

[Reporter] The prime minister once said the rally did not represent a majority. So what constitutes a majority?

[Suchinda] I did not say the rally was not a majority. What I disagree with is the process outside of parliament. By majority, I mean the majority of the members of parliament.

[Reporter] You have met strong resistance since you undertook the premiership.

[Suchinda] From the beginning, I said that I did not want to be prime minister. If I craved for power, I should have been prime minister right after the coup had been staged.

[Reporter] Was it pressure from the five government parties that made you accept the post?

[Suchinda] You better ask the five political parties whether I had been pressured. The Armed Forces are not involved in politics. I told them not to bother with me but to leave me to struggle by myself when I quit the Army to take up this post.

[Reporter] Can you give an assurance that there will not be another coup?

[Suchinda] What coup? As head of the government, I will try my best to stop coups from taking place. It is my duty to keep the democratic system and I will try my best.

[Reporter] Has the previous coup damaged the democratic system?

[Suchinda] No. If there is anything we should do, then we should do it. As I was the Army commander who had the power, I had to take action when something had to be done to prevent irreparable damage to the country.

[Reporter] Do you think you have made a mistake by accepting the prime minister's post?

[Suchinda] No. I have made a decision and it was not a mistake.

[Reporter] We are afraid that disturbances might provoke another military takeover.

[Suchinda] I can assure you that I do not support it, and I will try my best to stop it.

[Reporter] What do you feel about protesters' burning your effigy.

[Suchinda] Never mind. Let them do it.

[Reporter] What about the hunger strike by Second Lieutenant Chalat Worachat?

[Suchinda] Well, he is smart, still having strength after 30 days of fasting.

[Reporter] The people said you were handsome when you were Army commander, but less so now after becoming prime minister.

[Suchinda] I am always handsome. But I have been told that a prime minister should not make jokes, so I have to be serious. If I could make idle talk as before, then I would have a smiling face. Well, up to you.

Opposition to Suchinda Premiership Viewed

BK0805123192

[Editorial Report] Four Thai-langauge papers—THAI RAT, MATICHON, SIAM RAT, and, BAN MUANG—

carry editorials on 8 May commenting on the opposition to the assumption of premiership by General Suchinda Khraprayun and the current political crisis.

THAI RAT's page three editorial, "Fighting by the Rule," says that various incidents have happened around the world in this period, such as the riots in Los Angeles, the ongoing civil war in Yugoslavia, the strike in Germany, and the political conflicts in the Philippines and Thailand. Regarding the situation in the country, the editorial appeals to all parties who are demanding that the prime minister be an elected person to fight by the rules. Opposition to a non-elected prime minister can be done in line with democratic rule in parliament, not by creating mobs to exert pressure on the government outside the parliament. The editorial also says that now we risk having serious political and economic damage after the Palang Dharma party leader decided to use his life to incite the people to oust the government because he believed that joint efforts to press the government were insignificant. "This is a troublesome situation, since we have ways to resolve the problem in accordance with democratic rule," the editorial says.

Concluding, the editorial says that "we want all people first to preserve our democratic system, which is not fully democratic, and then to amend the constitution to make it a fully democratic system." The rallies to oust the government are so risky that Thailand may not have democracy for tens of years.

MATICHON's page 8 editorial, "In the Eyes of the World," says that Bangkok has once again become the focus of attention for foreign countries. Foreign mass media are eagerly reporting the situation in our country. The world is watching the consequences of the situation in Thailand. The situation will have an impact on the country's image. If the Thai people are able to resolve the problem peacefully through compromise and flexibility, Thailand's image in the world will be much better than several other countries which have resorted to violence to deal with their problems.

The editorial also says that if all parties concerned are unable to resolve the problem through peaceful means, it will have an impact on the economy. "Foreign countries will delay their investment because they are not confident of political stability in the country."

In conclusion, the editorial says that "members of Parliament from both the government and opposition parties should try to find means to resolve the crisis as soon as possible. Since Thailand's form of democracy is based on a parliamentary system, the MPs should try to find a compromise. The MPs should resolve the problem to prove to the world and the Thai people that the Parliament, especially the House of Representatives, has wisdom and the ability to resolve its problems."

SIAM RAT's page 3 editorial, "General Suchinda Khraprayun and the Current Situation," says that the appointment of Prime Minister General Suchinda Khraprayun as prime minister has drawn opposition both inside and outside Parliament. While the prime minister delivered the government policy statement to Parliament, a large number of people rallied in front of the Parliament building. "It is believed that protests and opposition to General Suchinda Khraprayun's rise to the premiership will continue, and no one will know how long this will last."

Concluding, the editorial says: "We hope to see an end to this problem, which may escalate into a considerable issue and cause damage to the nation. We see that the person who can resolve this problem is General Suchinda Khraprayun, the present prime minister. For these reasons, we would like to suggest that General Suchinda Khraprayun reconsider whether or not he should resolve the current situation, since he is the cause of the problem."

BAN MUANG's page 5 editorial, "Tooth for Tooth and Eye for Eye," says that the political situation in Thailand has become more tense and beyond what the rules allow. Some politicians and groups of people do not accept the rule stipulated under the constitution of the Kingdom of 1991, which allows a non-elected person to assume the premiership. "According to the correct rule under the parliamentary democratic system, the problem of an outsider being allowed to administer national affairs can be solved by seeking a constitutional amendment in the parliament, which is a correct and legitimate method." The people can express their opinions in accordance with their rights under the laws. However, they should also take into account national interests and should refrain from doing anything which may cause trouble for the majority. It also says the movements outside the rules of the parliamentary system have caused damage to the economy.

Concluding, the editorial says that the country's 50 million people are fed up with the confusion of the members of Parliament. The people have begun to think about the need to solve this problem rather than allowing the situation to deteriorate. There are calls for a House dissolution, or ultimately a seizure of power, which seem to be good solutions needed by the people. As the old saying goes, "tooth for tooth and eye for eye."

Radio, TV Censorship May Cause Backlash

BK1205015792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 May 92 pp 29, 30

["TV/Radio: Back in the Dark Ages" by Wasant Techawongtham]

[Excerpts] A veil of darkness and silence has descended over the news departments of all major television networks and radio stations.

If television and radio were your only source of news, you would have little inkling that a political turmoil has been brewing, and the situation is potentially explosive [passage omitted]

While reporters and cameramen have been present at the sites of the demonstration to record the event, very little of what they covered had been aired. What the public saw or heard instead were views given by government officials or MPs belonging to the coalition parties. [passage omitted]

The apparently one-sided news presentation has caused widespread resentment among the viewing and listening public. At the protest site, the sentiment is virtually unanimous; people interviewed at random condemned in strong terms the state-controlled media. [passage omitted]

If the authorities, by choosing to deny viewers news of the demonstration, hoped to break up the gathering and discourage more people from joining in, they must be sorely disappointed. Their action has obviously backfired.

"I think the news blackout makes more people want to see the demonstration," said a Bangkokian in his 30s. "If they let TV report the news, people would just sit and watch the event back home. Thai people are usually lazy. But once they come, they become sort of addicted because of the excitement. And they bring along other people." [passage omitted]

An official, who said he works in the news section of the Foreign Ministry, said: "Not only Suchinda is lying. I and most of my friends no longer trust what we see on television or hear on radio because they refuse to stand on the side of the people in this time of crisis. They think that the government owns these media." [passage omitted]

At the other end of the air waves, reporters and cameramen expressed their frustration, bitterness, and sometimes despair.

Morale in the newsroom is at an all-time low, said a Channel 3 reporter resignedly. "Most reporters are very frustrated because the situation has deteriorated so much. But we don't know what to do. Many of us want to resign, but we don't know where else to go." [passage omitted]

"People have no more faith in us. They believe we are not standing on the side of truth," said a Channel 5 reporter.

The Channel 3 reporter agreed: "People normally have little trust in television news anyway. And it's hardly surprising. Even we think it is superficial."

She said under the circumstances, she could not afford to be worried whether television news would ever completely regain public trust. "I just hope that the current political turmoil will be positively resolved soon. At the moment, I'm just up to my ears with despair. Our hands are tied. We can't do anything right."

Others in the academic field are more optimistic. After the political situation returns to normal, the public initially will remain sceptical, commented Dr Choemsak Pinthong, producer and moderator of the talk show Mong Tang Mum on Channel 11.

But viewers, intelligent as they are, will be able to judge for themselves. After a while, if television performs its journalistic function as expected, it will again have the public trust, he said. [passage omitted]

'Balanced' State Media Demanded

BK1105001792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 May 92 p 4

[Editorial: "Abusing the Role of the State-Run Media"]

[Text] The mass media in any civilised society serve the basic dual functions of informing the public of important news events and offering a forum where divergent opinions can be thrashed out. On the presentation of news, all relevant aspects of any given story, both the positive and negative sides, are presented in a balanced manner so that the television viewers, radio listeners, or newspaper readers can make their own judgement. Likewise, divergent opinions on any contentious issue of national significance are aired on discussion programs or newspaper pages so that members of the public can form their own position. All this is part and parcel of a healthy democracy.

Unfortunately, such fundamental journalistic characteristics have become appallingly lacking with the state-controlled television and radio stations in this country at present. One of the most striking sideshows to the political unrest here last week was the combination of censorship and distortion of events surrounding the pro-democracy demonstrations. This was so blatant that it prompted a protest at the two army-controlled television staitions, plus an endless stream of telephone calls to this newspaper office enquiring about the latest developments and complaining about the overall conduct of the state media. The newspapers now appear to be the only source of information the public can rely on.

In this information age, the state media's censorship of the anti-Suchinda protests has caused gave frustration and disappointment among the citizenry, particularly the politically-sophisticated people in Bangkok and provincial towns. Whether the cause of the protesters is correct is beside the point here. Censorship has deprived the public of its right to know—in total contradiction of the Government's stated policy to promote freedom of information. As tax-paying citizens of this country, the people have the right to be informed of all aspects of a major political development such as the current protest so that they can form their own opinions.

What is more deplorable is the abuse of state media to distort selected events surrounding the demonstrations. While the army-run Capital Security Command's role in maintaining peace and order in the metropolis is understandable, its frequent interruptions of normal TV programs with announcements designed to undermine the protest movement is neither constructive nor responsible. There is no quesiton that all concerned citizens of this country would like to see a speedy end to the current political crisis. But twisting the protest events to serve the narrow objectives of the powers- that-be only fuels

further resentment among the protesters and hence is counter-productive. It is also an insult to the intelligence of the people who are aware of the true situation.

A thinly-disguised attempt yesterday by some units of the state media to whip up sentiments against the protesters for their alleged blockade of Ratchadamnoen Avenue where Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthon was originally supposed to travel on her way to perform an official ceremony at Sanam Luang is not only irresponsible but also dangerous. It was reminiscent of the dark days before the bloody coup of October 1976 when mobilisation of emotion-charged rightists culminated in the killings of a large number of innocent students—an ugly episode in our history which we definitely do not want to see repeated. As the situation turned out yesterday, Ratchadamnoen Avenue was cleared by the protesters. The barbed-wire barricades on Phanfa Bridge were not. Meanwhile, Her Royal Highness the Princess travelled to Sanam Luang via another route.

These abuses of the state media must stop before the Government's credibility dips further. Since all the TV and radio stations are either directly or indirectly run by state agencies, their job should be to serve the broader public interests rather than the narrow interests of any government in power or any other powerful cliques. In a political situation that remains highly volatile like at present, it is imeprative for the state media to be balanced and objective in its presentation of both sides of a dispute.

Editorials on News Blackout

BK1205152192

[Editorial Report] Two Thai-language dailies, SIAM RAT and MATICHON, on 12 May carry editorials commenting on the television and radio news blackout on the 6-10 May demonstrations against the non-election of General Suchinda Khraprayun to the premiership.

SIAM RAT's page three editorial, "We Are Ready to Cooperate with Government for Democracy Development," says that a large number of the people in the crowd present at the rallies were there because they wanted to find out the truth about the demonstrations, being frustrated with the one-sided reporting by the state-controlled media. That was why a large crowd showed up at the rallies. Meanwhile, the print media took advantage of the radio and television news blackout to randomly and irresponsibly report on the protests, without concern for whether such reporting would harm the nation's image and the development of democracy.

"We appeal to the government to allow freedom of information to promote the development of democracy. We want to tell the government that the press is ready to cooperate with it in promoting national development and preserving the good image of the country. However, we do not want the government to make the same mistake. Its control of the mass media should not go too far, to the point that this action could backfire against the government itself. What the government has done has damaged the news credibility of the powerful state apparatus, causing the media to become worthless," the paper concludes.

MATICHON's editorial on page 8, "Reason for Failure," cites a report on the prime minister's speech prior to the closing of the parliament session on 7 May as an example of one-sided news presentation by the state-controlled radio and television stations. Those who listened and watched the live broadcast of the session heard jeers and boos when the prime minister made a reference to the attempts by certain politicians to apply the presidium system and create a new religious sect in Thailand. The edited versions broadcast afterwards did not have the jeers and boos by parliamentarians, but a long clip of hand-clapping after the prime minister finished his speech. It was backed up, later on, by interviews and features discussing the reference to a presidium council. The people, however, were not convinced.

"The one-sided news reports on radio and television, intending to slander the opposition, were accompanied by interviews with those who are against the protesters, without including any comments from those who are neutral or who support the protesters. This caused the state-controlled media to lose credibility among the public. Its actions have backfired. This constitutes a failure of the government as well as those in charge of the government media," the paper says.

Vietnam

Nine Big U.S. Firms Urge Bush To End Embargo

BK1305072692 Hanoi VNA in English 0550 GMT 13 GMT 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 13—Representatives of nine big companies in the United States have urged President Bush to relax restrictions in trade transactions with Vietnam.

In a joint letter dated May 7, representatives of Caterpillar Inc., Boeing Commercial Airplanes, American International Group, Hunt Oil Company, Winmere Corporation, Chevron Overseas Petroleum Inc., Phillips Petroleum Company, Coudert Brothers, and Amoco Production Company said trade sanctions against Vietnam had become a unilateral affair since allies and partners of the United States were doing a roaring business in Vietnam.

Whatever effect of the trade embargo may have, it does not prevent Vietnam from obtaining western technology and financing, but only punishes American companies by denying them the favourable conditions their competitors are enjoying in Vietnam, the petitioners said.

The United States is losing fast a position and market where it can compete strongly against other countries, they complained.

Envoy Attends Maryland-SRV Symposium

BK1205090192 Hanoi VNA in English 0612 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—A symposium on "Strategies for Reconciliation and Beyond: the United States and Vietnam" was held in Washington on May 8 by the Maryland-Vietnam Partnership at the Maryland University, Maryland state.

It was attended by more than 80 scholars and representatives of American organizations interested in Vietnam.

Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang, head of the Vietnamese permanent mission at the United Nations, was invited to the symposium.

Participants focused on issues relating to the U.S.-Vietnamese normalization and prospects of their cooperation there after. The spoke of Vietnam's all-sided achievements in the renovation process, and stressed that it was time for the US government to lift the economic embargo and normalize relations with Vietnam. Dr. William Kirwan, representative of Maryland University, expressed his wish to set up permanent relations with Vietnam.

For his part, Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang spoke of Vietnam's renovation policy and foreign policy for peace, stability, and development. He epxressed Vietnam's wish to befriend all countries on the basis of mutual respect, equality, and mutual benefits. He said speeding up normalization with the United States is a major external policy of Vietnam.

On the same day, Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang met with Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Kenneth Quinn. The two sides shared the view that the relations between the two countries have recently improved, but that both countries should try harder to normalize their relations as soon as possible.

Earlier, on May 7, Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang separately met with Senator John Kerry, chairman of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on MIA/POW issue, and Senator John McCain, to exchange views on the prospect of relations between the two countries and the settlement of MIA issue. Senator John Kerry said that his recent visit to Vietnam was a big success, and that in the next five or six months, if the two sides tried their best, the MIA/POW issue could be solved and the relations between the two countries could switch over to a new stage.

Chinese Provincial Trade Fair Opens in Hanoi

BK1205155192 Hanoi VNA in English 1421 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—A trade fair of Guangxi Province (China) was opened at the Soviet-Vietnamese friendship cultural palace here this morning jointly by the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Vietnam-based branch of the Guangxi Trade Promotion Association.

This is China's first provincial trade fair held in Vietnam.

Sixty production and business establishments of Guangxi display more than 10,000 products, including chemicals, food and foodstuff, fine art goods, garments, non-ferrous metals, coal, construction materials, and pharmaceuticals. The fair will last until May 18.

Trade Union Delegation Pays Visit to China

BK1305064592 Hanoi VNA in English 0627 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 13—A delegation of the Confederation of Vietnamese workers led by its president Nguyen Van Thu has paid a visit to China from May (?3) as guest of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU).

It was received in Beijing on May 11 by Qiao Shi, Political Bureau member of the CPC Central Committee. Mr Qiao Shi stressed his joy at the achievements gained by the Vietnamese working class and people in renovation. He described the delegation's visit as a contribution to enhancing the relations between the working class, peoples and labour organizations of the two countries.

On the morning of May 11, the delegation held talks with the ACFTU delegation led by its president Ni Zhifu. The two sides exchanged ideas on measures to further develop the relations between trade union organizations of the two countries.

The Vietnamese delegation will visit Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Nanning.

Italy Funds Food Security Program Project

BK1305070192 Hanoi VNA in English 0633 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 13—The pilot project for the development of the national food security programmes, codenamed GCPS/RAS/140/ITA was signed on May 12 by Mr F. Rinville, FAO [UN Food and Agriculture Organization] representative in Hanoi.

The project is funded by the Italian Government with (?an interest) of $667,378, and will be executed in 18 months by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. It is aimed at working out a comprehensive national program on food security until the year 2000, developing and experimenting (?with a) food information system to monitor and evaluate national food security and train project personnel.

The signing ceremony was held yesterday in the presence of Itaian Ambassador to Vietnam Mr. Maurizio Teucei, representatives of the Council of Ministers Office, the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs, the State Planning Commission, the Ministry of Finance, and other offices concerned.

Chakkrapong Visit to Hanoi From Vientiane Cited

BK1205140492 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1113 GMT 12 May 92

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh 12 May (SPK)—Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, son of Prince Sihanouk and deputy prime minister of the State of Cambodia, arrived in Hanoi Monday, 11 May, for a 48-hour official visit to focus on future Cambodian-Vietnamese relations, AFP reports.

He stated upon his arrival that he came to Hanoi with the desire to strengthen cooperation with Vietnam (...) in conformity with the new situation in Cambodia, following the signing of the Paris agreement.

Prince Chakkrapong arrived in Vientiane where he had just made a three-day official visit. He is expected to meet Tuesday, 12 May, with Vietnam Communist Party General Secretary Do Muoi as well as Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet before leaving Hanoi Wednesday.

The prince, who is deputy prime minister of the Phnom Penh government, was greeted by his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Khanh, who wished that his visitor "would notice the feeling of friendship of the Vietnamese people toward the Cambodian people."

Mr. Khanh told AFP that Vietnam "was satisfied with the process of the peace plan, despite the difficulties encountered" and that it "was ready to contribute to its smooth development." He added that he "will renew, during this visit, the invitation made to Prince Sihanouk and Prime Minister Hun Sen to visit Vietnam." [passage omitted]

Do Muoi Receives Vice Premier, Party

BK1305013692 Hanoi VNA in English 1417 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—Party General Secretary Do Muoi this afternoon received a visiting Cambodian state delegation led by Vice Premier Prince Norodom Chakkrapong.

During his meeting with the Vietnamese party leader, Vice Premier Chakkrapong expressed the Cambodian state and people's desire to constantly consolidate and develop their traditional friendship and cooperation with vietnam.

For his part, General Secretary Do Muoi reaffirmed Vietnam's persistent policy of supporting the process of national reconciliation and concord in Cambodia under the leadership of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk towards a peaceful, independent, neutral, non-aligned Cambodia friendly with all nations, for peace, stability and cooperation in the region and the rest of the world.

The Vietnamese party leader asked his guests to convey his greetings to Samdech Sihanouk, Princess Monique, and Cambodian leaders Chea Sim, Heng Samrin, and Hun Sen.

The reception took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Also this afternoon, the Cambodian delegation was received by Premier Vo Van Kiet who welcomed the Cambodian people's achieverments in national reconciliation and concord under the leadership of Samdech Sihanouk. The Vietnamese premier said he hoped the two countries would further broaden their bilateral cooperation in economy, trade, tourism, science and technology, education, and training.

Joint Delegations Hold Talks

BK1205162192 Hanoi VNA in English 1423 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—Vietnamese and Cambodian government delegations held talks here this morning.

The Vietnamese delegation was led by Vice Premier Nguyen Khanh, the Cambodian delegation was headed by Vice Premier Norodom Chakkrapong.

Vice Premier Chakkrapong reiterated the Cambodian people's determination to overcome all difficulties to materialise national reconciliation and concord, and build a peaceful, independent, neutral and non-aligned Cambodia.

The two sides discussed issues of bilateral relations and expressed their desire to further consolidat and strengthen their friendship and bilateral relations for a Southeast Asia of peace, stability, cooperation, and development.

The two sides discussed measures to broaden their cooperation in economy, trade, tourism, culture, education and other fields.

They also dealt with international and regional issues of common concern. The talks took place in an atmosphere of friendship, cooperation, and mutual understanding.

Spokesman in Phnom Penh Denies Ieng Sary Comment

BK1205162792 Hanoi VNA in English 1419 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—A spokesman for the Vietnamese embassy in Phnom Penh has dismissed Khmer Rouge Ieng Sary's recent fabrication about Vietnamese military personnel in the Phnom Penh government.

On May 5, the Voice of America quoted Ieng Sary, the Khmer Rouge number two figure, as saying at a press conference on May 4 in a place near the Thai border that there were some 20,000 Vietnamese military advisors and commanders in the Phnom Penh government army.

Ieng Sary's ill-intentioned allegation is aimed at covering up his party's lack-of-good-will schemes and moves, the spokesman said.

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam has always done all its commitments, and is ready to cooperate with UNTAC [U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia] and other concerned parties in implementing the Paris Agreement on Cambodia, the spokesman stressed.

Laos Confers Friendship Orders on Kontum Province

BK1205155992 Hanoi VNA in English 1413 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—The Lao Goverment has conferred its orders of friendship on the highlands province of Kontum and on the chairman of its people's committee, so Lay Lang, in acknowledgement of their contributions to promoting the solidarity and friendship between Kontum and its neighboring province of Attopeu of Laos.

The distinctions were presented in a ceremony held in Kontum in the presence of Thoong Dam, alternate member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Commitee and chairman of the people's committee of Attopeu. Mr. Thoong Dam was heading a delegation of Attopeu to visit Kontum to exchange views on how to promote socioeconomic relations between the two sister provinces.

Nguyen Manh Cam Attends NAM Movement in Bali

BK1205163792 Hanoi VNA in English 1422 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam is attending the conference of the coordinating committee of the Non-Aligned Movment (NAM) opened in Bali (Indonesia) on May 12 to prepare for the 10th NAM Summit Conference to be held in Jakarta on September 1-6, 1992.

SRV To Hold Annual Industrial Trade Fairs

BK1205085392 Hanoi VNA in English 0604 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—The government has decided to organise an annual international trade for industrial products in Hanoi.

The decision, recently adopted by Premier Vo Van Kiet, provides that Vietnameses industrialists in all sectors of the economy may take part in the fair in October alongside foreign manufacturers.

This year Hanoi has hosted four major international trade fair '92, Vietnamtex '92, and an international hi-tech exhibition. In all, over 600 foreign companies displayed their products at these events.

Until last year, HCM city had been the busiest exhibition center in the country, hosting three or four international trade fairs a year.

Workshop Held on Change to Market Banking System

BK1205083992 Hanoi VNA in English 0552 GMT 12 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—A workshop on transition towards a market-oriented rural banking system was opened here Monday jointly by the Vietnam Agricultural Bank (VAB) and the Asian-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA).

Present on the occasion were representatives of international organizations in Vietnam, such as FAO [UN Food and Agriculture Organization], UNDP [United Nations Development Program], SIDA [Swedish International Agency], the Indonesian Agricultural Bank, and the EC Program in Vietnam.

The participants exchanged views on how to transform VAB into a real commercial bank, thus contributing to forming a suitable financial, monetary, and credit policy and developing in Vietnam and the youngest member of APRACA.

The workshop will last until May 13.

Papua New Guinea

Troops Reportedly Land in Southern Bougainville

BK1305070892 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] Papua New Guinea [PNG] troops have reportedly landed on the southern tip of the secessionist island of Bougainville. Although there is no official reaction to the report, the prime minister, Rabbie Namaliu, has been briefed in Rabaul by the commander of the PNG Defense Force, Brigadier General (Rokus Lokonat), who just returned from Bougainville. From Port Moresby, Brian Abbott reports:

[Begin Abbott recording] A force of 200 PNG troops, who were recently trained at the Australian Army jungle warfare school in Queensland, reportedly landed at (Siwai) on Sunday. The landing follows the recent assurances by Prime Minister Namaliu that the government would protect the people of southern Bougainville from the BRA [Bougainville Revolutionary Army] after the killing last month of eight local leaders, including former politician Tony Anugu.

The landing was reportedly unopposed since the BRA had apparently moved most of its fighters to central Bougainville following fears of a major assault by the Defense Force on BRA headquarters. [end recording]

Namaliu Confirms Troop Landing

LD1305093692 Wellington Radio New Zealand International in English 0800 GMT 13 May 92

[Excerpts] Papua New Guinea has confirmed that it has landed troops on southern Bougainville. Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu said [words instinct] about 15 Papua New Guinea soldiers landed at the village of (Siwai) [word indistinct] on Saturday and have set up a base in the area. Mr. Namaliu said a further 60 soldiers are also stationed on an island just offshore from (?the village). He said the troops went to the area at the request of local chiefs and village leaders who feared for their safety after the secessionist Bougainville Revolutionary Army—the BRA—executed south Bougainville leader Anthony Anugu earlier this year. [Words indistinct] (?Namaliu) said the troops will also be supported by a local militia set up to oppose the BRA in the area. [passage omitted including indistinct portions]

Mr. Namaliu said his government remained committed to seeking a peaceful solution to the Bougainville crisis. Earlier, the BRA said some 200 Papua New Guinea soldiers had landed in the south.

Reinforcements Planned

LD1305104492 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0900 GMT 13 May 92

[Excerpts] Papua New Guinea [PNG] security forces have established a base at (Siwai), on the southern tip of the (?secessionist) island of Bougainville. The prime minister, Rabbie Namaliu, (?said) the security forces were invited to come to the south of Bougainville by local chiefs. The security forces landed at (Siwai) over the weekend. More from Brian Abbott:

[Abbott] [Passage omitted including indistinct portions] Mr. Namaliu says the landing party will be reinforced as soon as possible so the task of restoring government services to the people could begin. The landing, although small, is significant because it's the first time since PNG troops were forced to withdraw from Bougainville in the early 1990s (?that) the government now controls a part of southern Bougainville and follows a setback to its earlier plans to establish control in the region following the recent killing by the BRA [Bougainville Revolutionary Army] of Tony Anugu and seven (?leaders) from the region.

Rebel Leader Warns of 'Holocaust'

LD1305075592 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0700 GMT 13 May 92

[Text] The Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA] has appealed to Solomon Islands and other Pacific nations to use their influence to stop what it terms the genocide of the Bougainville people by Papua New Guinea [PNG]. In an impassioned appeal on rebel radio, BRA leader Joseph Kabui said Pacific countries must help Bougainville before a holocaust occurred and the PNG Defense Force committed genocide against Bougainville's people. Mr. Kabui said attempts to find a political solution to the Bougainville crisis had failed and PNG had embarked on a program to kill the people. Mr. Kabui's appeal followed reports that the PNG Defense Force had landed at (Siwai), in southern Bougainville.

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